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FURTHER REPORTAGE ON POPULATION CONFERENCE

Parliamentary Assembly

FL132300 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1834 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will inaugurate the International Parliamentary Assembly on Population and Development this Wednesday. The assembly will discuss mechanisms for the participating countries to express as laws the conclusions of the UN International Conference on Population, which ended today in Mexico City.

During the inaugural ceremony, which will take place in the former Chamber of Deputies, Humberto Lugo Gil, president of the Permanent Commission of the National Congress and president of the assembly, will speak.

Mr Sat Paul Mittal, secretary general of the Asian Parliamentary Forum and secretary general of the assembly; Mrs Mavis Gilmour, Jamaican minister of education and vice president of the Inter-American Parliamentary Group; and Mr Takeo Fudeka, president of the Global Parliamentary Committee, will also speak.

The International Parliamentary Assembly, which will end on Thursday, 15 August, will also meet at the San Lazaro Legislative Palace, where the Population and Development Committee, the Committee on Women's Judicial and Social Condition, and the Committee for the Improvement of Family Planning Services will hold meetings.

Perez de Cuellar Address

FL141549 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2106 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- If development slows down or stops, the success of population control policies is in jeopardy, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar warned here today. In a speech during the 10th plenary session of the International Conference on Population, Perez de Cuellar said it would be tragic to have to reform present population policies which are showing good results.

He indicated that population growth is inevitable and in the next 100 years the world population will nearly double the present number, which is why it is necessary to immediately adopt demographic control measures. Population policies can no longer be limited to demographic growth factors, such as birth and mortality rates. They must also include the geographic population distribution, within and without national borders, he said.

Likewise, he noted that only within the context of a world economy of expansion, based on the rational and fair use of resources, can the intensification of efforts aimed at integrating population policies in planning be efficient.

Perez de Cuellar stressed that high demographic growth rates and rapid and unrestrained urban expansion will continue to be a matter of concern in the relationships of Latin America and Asia.

Condemning the arms race, the UN secretary general stressed that the conference is taking place at a time in which the world is witnessing acute political tensions and ever greater expenditures for nuclear and conventional arms.

Finally, he called on member states of the United Nations to have the necessary will and wisdom to reduce military expenditures and, thus, eliminate the climate of distrust they are causing.

Credentials Challenged

FL141634 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2235 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Cuba and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] today challenged the participation of Grenada and Israel in the Second International Conference on Population. During the penultimate day of sessions, the Cuban delegation, after examining the report of the conference's credentials committee, stressed that its country challenges the validity of the Grenada delegation because its government is illegally constituted. They are authorities imposed by the force of intervention, the Cuban delegate said, and recalled that UN Resolutions Nos 4 and 5 of 1983 call for a freely elected democratic government. The PDRY delegation, on behalf of the members of the Arab League, challenged Israel's credentials for its expansionist and arms policies in occupied Arab territories.

The credentials committee report states that the delegations from the USSR, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Nicaragua, Poland, the GDR, the Ukraine, and Vietnam have opposed the presence of Democratic Kampuchea instead of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is a regime lacking the necessary requisites to represent the Kampuchean people. The United States expressed support for Democratic Kampuchea and, referring to the Heng Samrin regime, said it should not be represented.

Debate on Occupied Territories

FL142142 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1658 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Mexican declaration containing the conclusions of the UN International Conference on Population was approved by the Main Events Commission [Comision Principal de Eventos] after 8 days of intense debates. Of the 90 recommendations made by Mexico, only No 34 was still unapproved, and it was put to a vote yesterday. It deals with international condemnation of the establishment of settlements in territories occupied by force. The United States and Israel were the only nations that opposed this recommendation. Among its most important clauses is one calling for disarmament, humane treatment of women who have had abortions, respect for the rights of migratory workers, and the right of couples to decide on the number of children they will have. After prolonged deliberations, the delegates rejected by majority vote a compromise text proposed by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar in which he attempted to achieve a consensus for the final document of the conference.

The United States and the USSR engaged in a fierce ideological dispute when the U.S. delegation defended the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and reminded the delegates that there are Vietnamese settlements in Kampuchea and Soviet settlements in Afghanistan. The Soviets replied that the United States had presented its management policy to the conference of attempting to inundate underdeveloped countries with birth-control devices to be used without medical supervision, which would cause many personal disasters. The U.S. delegation made a great effort to avoid the condemnation of illegal settlements in occupied territories, but the Arab nations headed by Sudan rejected the amendments and battled for a return to the original text of the recommendation. The final vote to approve the origional text was 8 in favor, 2 against, and 15 abstentions.

PRESIDENT DISPLEASED WITH NEWS COVERAGE

PY142148 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Aug 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin will meet with government media officials this week to look more carefully into the problem that "70 percent of news published on any given issue contains the opinion of those opposed to the government," the daily TIEMPO ARGENTINO reported yesterday.

Public Information Secretary (SIP) Emilio Gibaja meanwhile denied reports that the President is upset with SIP's handling of statements made recently by presidential economy adviser Raul Prebish. TIEMPO sources said Alfonsin last week telephoned close aides in Buenos Aires from Ecuador, where he attended the inauguration of President Leon Febres Cordero, to express his displeasure over the official response to Prebish's statements.

As part of the campaign to restore a positive image, SIP sources said Alfonsin will shortly start to hold news conferences every 10 or 15 days for local reporters. The President has held only one conference since taking office last December 10.

FOREIGN MINISTRY: NO DATE SET FOR BEAGLE ACCORD

PY142301 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2245 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Aug (TELAM) -- The Foreign Ministry today released a press communique denying reports and comments on the conclusion of the negotiations between Argentina and Chile regarding the Beagle Channel dispute. Following is the text of the communique:

"The General Press Directorate of the Foreign Ministry informs the public that the negotiations between our country and the Republic of Chile regarding the Beagle Channel continue their normal course and they will not be accelerated, nor will they be benefited by certain unofficial commentaries regarding their imminent concludion. In addition, it is still impossible to establish a date for the final agreement."

Radicals Issue Document on Beagle

PY141848 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1245 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Aug (NA) -- Radical Senator Adolfo Gass today said that the possibility of Pope John Paul II submitting his new proposal on the Beagle Channel dispute to the Argentine and Chilean foreign ministers between next Saturday and Tuesday, as was disclosed by a press report, "is in keeping with the established timetable."

The Radical Party's working document confirms that the imminent agreement over the southern border conflict "grants our country sovereignty over the sea that covers the zone of joint and concerted activities," which the pope's first proposal established as a shared jurisdiction.

In comments to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Adolfo Gass, president of the Senate Foreign Relations Commission, explained that during the ceremony in which the proposal will be handed to Foreign Ministers Dante Caputo and Jaime del Valle "no agreement will be signed," adding that "the proposals might just be initialed." In this regard, Gass pointed out that the agreement will be signed by the government once it has the results of the popular consultation "scheduled for 30 September, but which might be postponed for a week, according to the development of events."

Gass then said that after the popular consultation, the agreement will be submitted to Congress, which will study it "during extraordinary sessions, as it has historically done in the case of other important subjects that are never discussed during ordinary sessions."

Gass, who is also a member of the Radical Civic Union National Committee, asserted that his party is already "mobilized" in support of the porposal. This mobilization will include sticking up posters urging the people to vote in favor of the agreement.

Gass incidentally mentioned the agreement Salto Province Governor Roberto Romero signed with Chilean Ambassador to Argentina Arturo Fontaine Aldunate that provides for the export of Salta's goods through the Pacific. The senator warned that the government will "run into opposition" in view of its direction to solve the conflict in these terms and "that there will always be those who accuse the government of hastiness."

In the meantime, political circles have learned about a document of the Radical bloc in the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations Committee that wonders whether "Pinochet, in the future, oppressed by the Chilean people's desire for freedom and justice, might not try to take the Beagle by assault as Galtieri did with the Malvinas in 1982." The text of the document states that the imminent agreement over the Beagle Channel dispute establishes that the "118,000 square kilometers that cover the zone of joint and concerted activities, which drove our country and Chile to the brink of a permanent dispute, will be changed in the final agreement to 12,000 square kilometers under Chilean jurisdiction and the rest fully under Argentine sovereignty."

Further on the document states that "our country will also have a sizeable corridor that will allow it to sail through its own waters to the Antarctic." Therefore, "our claims over the white continent will not be affected and we will be in a better position, once the agreement is signed, to carry out the ambitious cooperation in the region."

Regarding the alternatives to solve the conflict outside the papal mediation, the document states that it is not advisable to resort to The Hague International Court, because this court includes five members of the previous arbitration and because "in view of the UN Charter, by which our nation abides, the ruling of The Hague Court would be compulsory."

Regarding a forceful solution, the document states that "a war over the islands would promptly turn the conflict into an international issue, with the intervention of the great powers and the Chilean and Argentine peoples would only serve as cannon fodder in the actions that would not even be decided in Buenos Aires or Santiago, and we would thus witness an East-West conflict of unpredictable consequences."

PLAN TO SEVER TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA DENIED

PY141920 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Elsa Kelly, secretary for international relations and worship, has denied that Argentina is planning to sever relations with South Africa. This was disclosed by Francisco Manrique [Federal Party president] at the end of a meeting with Elsa Kelly at the Foreign Ministry today. The report about the alleged severance of relations with South Africa was published by a Buenos Aires daily this morning.

Manrique met with Kelly to discuss the status of the negotiations over the Beagle Channel dispute.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 1449 GMT on 14 August reported that "a report datelined Geneva quoted Norma Dupont, the Argentine permanent representative to the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination," as reporting that Buenos Aires is ready to sever all ties with South Africa." The report "caused amazement in the Argentine Foreign Ministry." AFP says that "well-informed Foreign Ministry sources consulted by AFP said that they know nothing about it because the original report on Norma Dupon's alleged statement did not include any quotes."

NICARAGUA'S WHEELOCK HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

PY150246 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2255 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Aug (TELAM) -- Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman, member of the Nicaraguan revolutionary junta, today said that the United States wants to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government because if the Nicaraguan revolution is successful the model the United States wants to impose on Latin America will have been defeated. Wheelock, who is attending the 18th FAO regional conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, gave a long press conference at the Nicaraguan Embassy jointly with Nicaraguan Ambassador Ricardo Zambrana Diaz.

In his opening statement which was followed by a shower of questions, Wheelock referred primarily to the Nicaraguan political and military situation. He noted that reactionary forces are receiving U.S. logistical support and that there are rural areas where the pressure to destabilize the government can be readily felt. Wheelock said: This is why we are going to institutionalize the revolution through elections, not to please Reagan but to let the people endorse with their vote everything that has been done until now and to consolidate the administration of the revolutionary government junta.

Wheelock noted that through the election of 90 popular representatives the people will be able to truly participate in the national recovery effort to build a new Nicaragua. He also termed very positive the role played by the Contadora Group, which is made up of Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela, since it represents an alternative for peace in the region and a barrier against aggression.

Wheelock expressed doubts, however, about whether the Reagan administration will heed the desire for peace of the Contadora Group and the widespread international support for Nicaragua since the United States has in the Canal Zone a set up focused on South America which encourages destabilizing groups.

In reply to a question, Wheelock said that a mercenary earns $600 monthly paid by the CIA, adding that the reason they have not yet gone too far is because they are aware that Nicaragua is better prepared than in the past and that Nicaraguans will fight to the end. Wheelock added: We are developing a new model for a nation and for intensions are reflected in the fact that, apart from Contadora, we are also holding bilateral negotiations with Washington to seek a reasonable rapprochement to explain our mutual fears on the basis of respect for our respective sovereignty.

Wheelock then outlined the major points of disagreement: the supply of arms to irregular forces, the presence of foreign troops and military bases, political attempts to weaken and to divide the domestic front, and obstacles to international cooperation.

He added that little is known abroad about what is happening in his country, which has a mixed economy where there are efficient large estate owners, cooperatives of agricultural workers, and government-owned land exploited under state management. Wheelock also said that the best coffee production was obtained in 1982 and that there is also good production of beans, corn, cotton, and other crops.

He voiced support for Latin American integration since countries like Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina could completely meet Nicaraguan requirements for agricultural implements and technology.

Going back to the situation prevailing in Central America, Wheelock said that there is a disguised U.S. military presence in Honduras, naval units in Nicaraguan territorial waters, and spy planes, while Nicaragua has neither navy nor planes, and if it has a powerful Army today it is only to defend itself, not to attack anyone.

Wheelock added that the most repulsive campaign against Nicaragua is the charge that it is stimulating drug traffic since Nicaragua has not only eradicated those dirty operations but has been cracking down on the few drug takers.

Wheelock added: A military solution is not feasible in Nicaragua because Latin America, Western Europe, and large sectors of public opinion in the United States are on our side, and we also maintain cordial relations with Eastern Europe.

Finally, Wheelock admitted that Argentina had opened a $50-million line of credit to his country for the purchase of primary and manufactured products.

PROTOTYPE OF IA-63 TRAINER AIRCRAFT TO BE PRESENTED

PY141338 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2055 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 13 Aug (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin will deliver a speech tomorrow at a ceremony commemorating the Air Force anniversary. The ceremony will take place here in Cordoba and a new airplane prototype, the IA-63, a training jet aircraft completely made in Argentina, will be presented during the ceremony.

The Air Force is awaiting Alfonsin's speech with great interest since it has been facing difficult operational problems due to an inadequate budget. According to Air Force sources, there is concern over the fact that the 63 aircraft lost in the Malvinas war have not been replaced, and that with the current budget policy, it will not be possible to replace them and that there are also serious problems in maintaining and operating the remaining Air Force aircraft.

The IA-63 Pampa advanced training plane that will be presented tomorrow was completely built at the Cordoba military aircraft factory with the help of the German Dornier factory. Several successive contracts have been made with differennt suppliers to reduce dependency on and indebtedness to one supplier alone.

The IA-63 is scheduled to make its first flight in October and to be on the assembly line in 1985, but budget cuts will prevent these objectives from being reached. The project had been allotted $40 million for development, but $90 million will be necessary for industrial production.

Air Force sources have said that if the budget gaps are not covered, many personnel from the military aircraft factory will be dismissed and several subsidiary industries, particularly local ones, will be affected. This would also cause the military aircraft factory to operate far below its true capability, and it may make the German firm Dornier reluctant to continue to cooperate with this project.

GENERAL WALDNER DISCUSSES AVIATION ISSUES

PY141928 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpts] President Raul Alfonsin this morning in Cordoba presided over a ceremony to commemorate Argentine Air Force Day. Here is a report by our special correspondent in the city of Cordoba:

During the ceremony at the Cordoba supply depot, near the city of Cordoba, a military parade was held and a prototype of the IA-63 aircraft was unveiled. The IA-63 is a basic advanced training aircraft that has been totally manufactured by the domestic military aircraft factory. The central ceremony opened with the singing of the national anthem. Later the general military vicar held mass and Air Force Chief of Staff Teodoro Guillermo Waldner delivered a speech.

Waldner began by saying that institutions are created, developed, defined, and strengthened over time. He then reviewed the progress made and goals attained by the Argentine Air Force, saying that Argentina currently has 329 fully operational public airports, which gives it the sixth place in the world and a total of 9 percent of the international airports in the Caribbean and in South America, one less than Canada. This means, he said, that Argentina has one airport less than Canada and an equivalent of 23 percent of the number of U.S. public airports.

Waldner then elaborated on the Air Force contribution to air navigation, the national meteorological service, and the training of civililian personnel. As regards Argentina's air capacity, he said: We must not forget that this is the fruit of the efforts made by civilians and the military since 1912. Waldner particularly stressed the effort made by the civilians.

He added: We must apply to peace the same decisiveness with which we confronted war in the past. Within this atmosphere of peace, the Air Force will maintain its line of behavior; it will continue to be respectful yet with an adequate share of firmness, coherent yet not arrogant, and low-keyed yet strong.

Waldner said: We are Argentine citizens, and we are proud of it. We have faced offenses, slanders, suterfuges, and lies. We are aware of the efforts and sacrifices made to attain institutional normalization, and we believe that the only acceptable and possible way to attain the desired national unity and progress is by respecting the Constitution, the institutions, and the law.

He pointed out the unity and coherence between the three armed services, particularly their total subordination to the civilian power, to the authorities elected by the people.

Waldner concluded by stating that the Air Force will continue to make the necessary sacrifices and will try to make the best use of the funds allocated by the government.

PARTIES ESTABLISH GROUP TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY

PY142139 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Aug 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Fourteen political parties in the Federal Capital, including the ruling Radicals and the Peronists, yesterday set up a body to defend democracy and called on the Armed Forces to renounce their national security doctrine which the politicians described as nefarious.

After a meeting at the San Martin cultural centre at which a Metropolitan Assembly for the Defence of Democracy was set up, a six-page statement was issued on the issues of democracy, the foreign debt, the rule of the Armed Forces, and human rights.

The statement condemned those responsible for the "heavy mortgage" of the foreign debt and on human rights it stressed the need for "trial and conviction of all who were responsible for the national disaster." The rule of law must remain unaltered by dismantling "the intelligence and operations systems which still subsist outside the state," the statement said.

It added that an essential requisite for the consolidation of democracy was national unity to "pose a strong attack against the causes which in the course of history have generated violence and coups d'etat in Argentina -- dependency and exploitation of misery."

SEMINAR VIEWS LIFTING RESTRICTIONS ON UK FIRMS

PY110222 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1940 GMT 10 Aug

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Aug (NA) -- The hypothetical lifting of financial restrictions imposed on British companies during the Malvinas war was discussed at a business seminar in which Foreign Relations Secretary Elsa Kelly and Ambassador-at-Large Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen participated. Former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, 1 U.S. Embassy official, 1 Swiss Embassy official, 2 Chilean Embassy officials, and about 30 businessmen, some of whom represent British companies operating in the country, attended the seminar, which was promoted by the private organization FORO. The participation of Argentine Government officials, which was not officially announced, was revealed to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS by a reliable diplomatic source.

Kelly and Yrigoyen talked about the conditions that should exist to make lifting the restrictions possible. A future normalization of relations between Argentina and Great Britain, which is one of the topics on the agenda of Argentina's creditors, could bring about those conditions.

The presence of the Swiss diplomat was significant because his country has represented British interests in Argentina since 1982.

A review was made of official measures limiting the repatriation of capital by British companies which have been in force since the South Atlantic war in 1982. These restrictions on British capital have made Argentina's foreign debt renegotiations with the Paris Club, of which Great Britain is a member, difficult.

Once Argentina reaches some agreement with the IMF, it will have to negotiate with the Paris Club, which requires, among other things, that the debtor country not discriminate against any of its members.

The topic of restrictions was listed on the agenda for the unsuccessful meeting between Argentina and Great Britain in Bern, Switzerland, which was the first official contact between the two countries since the 1982 Malvinas war.

BUENOS AIRES POLICE FORM 'ANTISEDITION' UNIT

PY110014 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1407 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] La Plata, Argentina, 8 Aug (EFE) -- Juan Portessi, minister of government of Buenos Aires Province, last night announced that the Buenos Aires Province police department has "for some time" had a "special antisedition unit." Portessi thus corrected a press report that stated that the general secretariat of investigations had created an "antisubversive" unit.

"The correct word is not antisubversive but antisedition," Portessi stressed. Portessi stated that this unit "will be charged with detecting and intervening in every action that seeks to disrupt social peace or attack the democratic government." Portessi explained that "the unit will take action against those who seek to curtail political activities related to the republican system of government or to violently impose styles or tenets that are at odds with the Constitution."

"The 'CAS', the acronym for this special police unit, will act in coordination with the investigations directorate," Portessi stated. He made it clear to the press that in all cases "respect for the law, private liberties, and human rights will prevail."

According to Portessi, the training of the members of this new police unit will be charged to the security organization itself and they will be trained in countries with democratic governments like Spain, France, and Italy, based on agreements signed with these European countries. Portessi said that the chief of the Buenos Aires Province police, Inspector General Walter Stefanini, during a recent tour through those countries," held meetings and contacts to become acquainted with the formation of such special units." He stated that the creation of the CAS does not presuppose the existence of antisubversive cells in Buenos Aires, although he said that "we cannot live unrealistically, we must be on the watch." "When arrests are made, the special antisedition unit will place the person or group that sought to disrupt the people's will at the dispos . of the courts," Portessi stated. Portessi concluded that the CAS members will have at their disposal "highly sophisticated" equipment, and that as far as communications are concerned, "they will be using the world's most advanced technology."

TUCUMAN GOVERNOR ON INSTIGATION OF POLICE STRIKE

PY142144 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Aug 84 p 11

[Text] Tucuman (NA) -- Peronist Governor Fernando Riera yesterday suggested persons connected with the former military regime instigated a 10-day sit-in strike by 2,000 members of the provincial police force which ended last Wednesday after he personally mediatedin the conflict.

Riera said the week before the strike he had been informed "renowned personalities who handled the repression" had been in Tucuman and specifically mentioned former Governor General Antonio Bussi, General Luciano Menendez, who like Bussi, had been commander of the Tucuman-based Third Army Corps, and Colonel Antonio Arrechea, formerly police chief of Tucuman. "Curiously, a few days later the strike began," Riera said.

The governor said when he went to the police headquarters early on Wednesday for the final negotiations which ended the strike, "there were people there who did not belong to the police." Riera said there were "alien factors" which kept prolonging the rebellion and he took a hand to end it "to avert the bloodbath which was about to begin."

Federal Police and border guards surrounding the occupied building were preparing to storm it as the end of the strike was announced.

The governor said he would make a decision this week on reshuffling his cabinet which resigned en bloc following the police rebellion.

COMMENTATOR WARNS OF MORE POLICE REBELLIONS

PY100442 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[Commentary by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Roots for Destabilization"]

[Excerpts] According to a report the interior minister submitted to the presidency recently, the police rebellion in Tucuman could soon repeat itself in other provinces. It is quite possible that in addition to the catastrophic salary situation the security forces are currently enduring, there are other reasons and political maneuvers from various sectors, but the truth is that the salary problem is opening the doors to the latter problem, or at least, serving as an apparent excuse. In Tucuman's case, this province has, so to say, its own internal factors. In the first place is the fact that Tucuman will be the first province to stage partial parliamentary elections next year (in March). In the second place is the dual nature of its government from the political point of view, since it has a Peronist governor and a Radical mayor in the capital whose action, or lack of action, affects half the population of Tucuman Province. And in the third place is the imminently Peronist leaning of the provincial police force.

However, the incident at the police headquarters might not have become quite so serious if the national government had tackled it in a timely and coherent manner; that is, if the government were free of groups that have contradictory ideas, some of which seem to be aimed at destabilizing rather than preserving the democratic system, sometimes only with the purpose of seeking occasional advantages or merely demagogic purposes.

In this regard, for example, one should wonder who advised the president to reopen at that time the Tafi Viejo workshops, that in addition to their doubtful economic and social advantage have already demanded an investment of $20 to $25 million and will probably require further expenditures. With this money the government could ease more serious problems, such as that of the police forces' salaries. It would also be interesting to learn why this year, when Argentina has the largest sugar stock in the world (almost 38 percent of world consumption), the national government increased the production quota from 1,350,000 to 1,500,000 tons and distributed 50,000 tons of sugarcane production quota among small farmers.

We fear that the presidential train that was inaugurated by Victorino de la Plaza (the last person to use this train was no less than Mr Costa Mendez [former foreign minister during the military regime] during his "Latin American integration" trip to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, has been regarded by Tucuman inhabitants, as well as by the rest of Argentine citizens, as ancient and as useless as the Tafi Viejo workshops, or as the steam engines that used to be repaired in those workshops and that no longer exist (we will soon find out what is repaired in that place).

But will we really find out? It is hard to tell, unless the government completely changes its policy on information. Otherwise, Argentina will just have to continue suffering without even knowing why it is suffering as it has done until now. So far, there are no signs of any changes.

Even projects as sensitive as those referring to the granting of residency to foreigners or the creation of antisubversive police squads, which undoubtedly play an important role in the country's political stability and social peace, are being carried out under the greatest secrecy. These are some examples:

1. After Solari Yrigoyen and some congressmen's recent visit to the PRC, Beijing started negotiations with Buenos Aires regarding the shipment to Argentina of 2,000 to 15,000 Chinese workers (there has only been talk of workers and not of families), who would mainly settle in Salta and other northeastern areas. These workers would participate in the construction of international highways (Argentina-Chile) and would grow tobacco and soybeans. In La Rioja, the Chinese immigrants will allegedly install a factory of manual water pumps. Since the group of Chinese workers would be from the same PRC province, the vice governor of their province has already visited Salta to hold direct negotiations with the Salta authorities regarding the coming of his fellow countrymen and to study the local infrastructure. It is a fact, as Planning Secretary Guillermo Schwarcz [as received] recently stated, that other foreign colonists (from the FRG, France, and even the ROK) are also interested in emigrating to Argentina with the purpose of farming. But in the case of the Chinese, the area selected for settlement by their government (and its Argentine friends) draws our attention since it is mountainous and very near the Argentine-Bolivian border, making it easy to communicate with the subversive Maoist Shining Path group's cells in Peru. So far nothing has been said about what is going to be done with the great number of unemployed workers and peasants in our northeastern area who are being denied the jobs that are about to be given to the Chinese.

2. What financial and technical resources have been allocated to the creation of the Antisubversive Groups (GAS) that has been ordered by the General Investigations Directorate (Resolution No 2203-728.015/84) and that will be under the Police Department for Homicide and Serious Crimes? According to a resolution issued on 4 July by the La Plata police chief -- we presume that the remaining provincial police chiefs also have something to do with the plan -- the GAS branches will maintain a "technical liaison" with the General Intelligence Directorate that together with the Investigations Department will be in charge of, among other things, drawing up in the internal regulations of the new group. Who and how will its members be trained? Under what type of control system will they operate? Will the GAS be subjected to the same salary policy and professional ranking system as the other policemen who are currently adopting a rebellious attitude?

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES NUCLEAR BUDGET CUTS

PY131806 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 11 Aug 84 p 8

[Editorial: "To Administer the Debt"]

[Text] The chairman of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA) recently stated that with the allocation budgeted by the government the only scheduled activities that can be carried out are those in the fields of radioisotopes, training technicians, radiologic protection and nuclear safety, and research and development. In addition, it will not be possible to implement the program for building the nuclear power plants, including Atucha, which will have already been delayed 3 years in December.

On the other hand, the postponement of the program to build the nuclear power plants will make the investments in other areas of the nuclear program lose effectiveness, because the "power plants must be operational in order to make use of the results of research projects." What is the use, the official asked, of training technicians if the latter do not have the chance to apply their knowledge, thus promoting the brain drain. This being one of the few fields where our country has managed to overcome a critical phase, ranking us among the few countries with advanced nuclear technology, there is no doubt that these words uttered by engineer Alberto Constantini must be taken into account.

One of the CNEA chairman's ideas deserves special attention: "I feel that currently the purpose of my administration is to manage the debt of the corporation, when it actually should be to guide Argentine nuclear development." No matter how tough these words are, they conform to a reality that should not lead to discouragement but to the rational acceptance of that reality.

These circumstances demand officials who are clever administrators of the debt and perhaps this is a special component of their mission. It is true that in this task there is no room for exhibitionism that will prompt applause, but carrying it out is one of the best evidences of patriotism that one can give at this time. In addition, this requires that austerity no longer be a word used in occasional speeches.

The streamlining of the state, so often announced, and the resulting concrete decrease in public spending are part of that noble and patriotic mission of the good "administrators" of the debt.

However, it is impossible to soundly administer this debt -- we refer to the public administration as a whole -- if a rational criteria which inculcates the will to serve rather than the will to help oneself is not strictly applied. The strict application of this principle and the elimination of useless expenditures and activities by the state would allow, certainly, the reallocation of funds to those institutes, which, like those that are members of the CNEA, are decisively engaged in the setting of the nation's future.

Argentina must not delay its nuclear development, because this would imply risks for its future. On the other hand, any policy that directly or indirectly stimulates the continuing brain drain in no way will favor an improvement of the current situation.

BRIEFS

ARMY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF -- Buenos Aires, 6 Aug (TELAM) -- During a ceremony held at the Libertador building today, Army Chief of Staff General Ricardo Pianta installed General Raul Federico Schirmer as the new deputy chief of the Army General Staff. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0121 GMT 8 Aug 84 PY] EMERGENCY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION -- The government has created the Industrial Emergency Commission, which will be charged with proposing technical, juridical, and economic measures to recover this important sector. The commission, which will also intervene in the case of judicial actions against the government, will be headed by the commerce secretary and it will be made up of the budget and justice under secretaries and the presidents of the central and development banks. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84 PY]

OAS SECRETARY GENERAL DISCUSSES COOPERATION

PY141408 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpt] OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares has said that the OAS is determined to give vitality to its cooperation with Bolivia on several lines. Baena stated that the long-standing OAS cooperation with Bolivia will be set forth seeking the integral development of the cultural, educational, and technical sectors.

[Begin Baena recording] The OAS has a long record of cooperation with Bolivia. The OAS General Secretariat is sponsoring a number of projects that seek the integral development and strengthening of the cultural, educational, and technical sectors. I feel certain that our cooperation will continue and that it will be fruitfully carried out to the benefit of those programs that are of interest to Bolivians. For my part, I will do my utmost so that the General Secretariat continues to effectively contribute to achieving these objectives. [end recording]

Baena also committed his dedicated attention to the interests of the Bolivian people regarding the search for methods that allows for the unified development of the OAS member countries. Baena will remain in our country until 16 August and will meet with government officials and lawmakers.

COCHABAMBA OFFICERS AGAIN SEEK SEJAS' REMOVAL

PY142113 Paris AFP in Spanish 1638 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] La Paz, 14 Aug (AFP) -- The officers of the Army Command and General Staff School (ECEM) in Cochabamba, located in central Bolivia, today again asked that Army Commander in Chief General Simon Sejas Tordoya be relieved. Thus, this new demand revives the Army's rebellion against the democratic process. The ECEM officers reiterated their charges against Sejas Tordoya, who is accused of subordinating the Army to the dictates of the government parties, delaying the sentencing of seven alleged leftist guerrillas, and delivering weapons to the labor unions to counter the coup staged by Colonel Hugo Banzer Suarez against the nationalist government of Juan Jose Torres.

As a result of past pronouncements, the government approved that ECEM Commander General Guillermo Velez Salmon be removed and that nine officers beseparated [words indistinct]. The ECEM's request was [words indistinct] in which the chief of state ratified his confidence in Sejas Tordoya, who is regarded as a shield against coup attempts, thus guaranteeing the democratic process, according to Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena's recent statements.

MINISTER 'CONCERNED' OVER OIL FIELDS OCCUPATION

PY150123 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Luis Saucedo has told Panamericana that the government is concerned over the occupation of the Tita and El Provenir oil fields by workers who are demanding a salary increase. Saucedo said that although this case falls under the jurisdiction of the Labor Ministry, the Energy and Hydrocarbons Ministry is concerned about a possible drop in oil production as a result of this strike. He noted that his ministry will make every effort to find a solution to this conflict, which could result in a drop in oil production and a shortage of oil on the Bolivian market.

Saucedo said that he has information that oil production has been normal thus far in the occupied Tita and El Porvenir oil fields. He noted that the workers who occupied these fields are from the Occidental Petroleum Corporation, which has been working in the country under a contract with the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits.

Saucedo also told Panamericana that negotiations are under way between workers and representatives of the Occidental Petroleum Company to find a solution to this conflict.

LECHIN ASSERTS LABOR UNIONS 'PLURALISTIC'

PY141401 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] According to comments Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo made to Radio Panamericana, the various labor union organizations in the country are essentially pluralistic because several political parties participate in them. In the labor union organizations there are reds, browns, yellows, and other colors, Lechin said. In the opinion of this veteran union leader, the labor union organizations are made up not only of communists but of anticommunists as well. Let us listen to the comments Juan Lechin Oquendo made to Radio Panamericana.

[Begin Lechin recording] No organization is in the hands of a single party. The organizations are pluralistic. All labor union organizations in our country are pluralistic. The different (?groups) are made up of many political parties. This should not surprise us, nor puzzle us. The alleged sensitivity of some leaders of the Bolivian Communist Party regarding an anticommunist front that is reportedly being formed inside the labor unions is being spoken about. This is stupid. This is stupid; it's sheer stupidity. What happened at the mineworkers convention where a front was formed against [word indistinct], that may happen. [Words indistinct] it would not be the first time. At the conventions where the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left had a majority, fronts were also formed against socialism. Something like that is taking place in Oruro. However, that [words indistinct] the Communist Party, that is really stupid. [end recording]

According to union leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, the COB has a democratic calling and is essentially pluralistic.

BRIEFS

NEW VENEZUELAN, LEBANESE AMBASSADORS -- Yesterday, in separate ceremonies, new Venezuelan Ambassador Eduardo Morreo and new Lebanese Ambassador Ibrahim Kreidi presented their credentials to President Hernan Siles Zuazo. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 Jul 84 p 3 PY]

IRON ORE TO ARGENTINA -- The Bolivian Iron and Steel Enterprise (Sidersa) has signed a new contract with Military Industries of Argentina covering the export of 10,000 metric tons of iron ore worth $140,000, Sidersa's General Manager Engineer Rene Rengel reported to PRESENCIA on 1 August. Rengel stated that the new export agreement will be fulfilled in two 5,000-ton shipments each. The first shipment is to take place in August and the second in September, Rengel concluded. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 2 Aug 84 p 8 PY]

SARAIVA GUERREIRO MEETS WITH PRC'S WU XUEQIAN

PY141255 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro this afternoon met with Wu Xueqian, his PRC counterpart, in Brasilia. The two ministers are scheduled to hold their first working meeting tomorrow. They will sign a nuclear energy development cooperation agreement on 15 August. This agreement will be a major achievement that will mark the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

This morning, Wu met with Brazilian businessmen from several sectors. The meeting was attended by representatives of Specialized Engineers Inc. [Engesa], Petrobras International Trade Inc. [Interbras], Brazilian Aeronautics Company [Embraer], Brazilian Iron and Steel Inc. [Sidebras], Brazilian Electric Power Companies Inc. [Electrobras], the sugar and alcohol institute, and other agencies. During the meeting, Wu outlined the economic situation in the PRC and viewed relations between his country and Brazil.

Senator Albano Franco, the president of the National Industrial Confederation, who organized the meeting, spoke about the importance of the meeting.

[Begin Franco recording] The meeting served to clarify matters, to clear up doubts, and to show the PRC Government's attitude in its dealings with Brazil. [end recording]

NEVES OUTLINES BASIC POINTS OF FOREIGN POLICY

PY150007 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 14 Aug 84 p 5

[Text] Belo Horizonte -- Governor Tancredo Neves, Democratic Alliance presidential candidate, is already outlining some points of the foreign policy he will implement if elected. In an interview granted yesterday to eight foreign press correspondents, Neves said that he will not promote the resumption of relations between Brazil and Cuba "for as long as the latter persists in the policy of exporting its revolution to the South American continent."

Neves added that he does not fear a possible reelection of U.S. President Ronald Reagan because of his Central American policy. He added that he supports the initiative of the Contadora Group to conclude a pact as the most reasonable, just, and humane solution to Central American problems, adding that he adheres to the principle of nonintervention.

Recalling that today's problems between Brazil and the United States are almost all economic, the Minas Gerais governor stated that the most serious of these problems is the non-customs duties, which he considers a punishment of Brazilian products, preventing them from being sold in the U.S. market. This, according to Neves, deeply affects Brazil's economic development.

Neves rejected the possibility of trying to solve the foreign debt problem based on a bloc of debtor countries, because he feels that every time this initiative has been adopted the results have not been favorable, due to the idiosyncrasies of each country. Only in exceptional cases would he support the formation of a cartel among debtor countries, especially in Latin America.

COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES MALUF CANDIDACY

PY141822 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Aug 84 p 10

[Commentary by Luiz Fernando Emediato: "Maluf Tries To Get Into History at Any Cost"]

[Excerpts] He considers himself a predestined man, the one who will save the country from bankruptcy and will make all the people happy, thus making himself happy too. Eyes sparkling, nervous, sometimes pulling hairs off the backs of his hands, Paulo Maluf affirms: "In any crisis, no matter how large the difficulties are, it is necessary to give people the idea that what lies ahead is better. For this reason, my government platform is entitled "Brazil Is Hope."

Who is this man whose obstinacy comes from his teenage years and who does not back away from the greatest obstacles, on the way swallowing humiliations, disregarding serious charges against his honesty, courting enemies, flattering the powerful, buying with roses or credit facilities those who can help him in his projects, and taking cruel vengeance on those who pay no attention to him?

The winner at the party convention at the cost of millions in expenses, promises, job offers, and even bribery attempts, according to at least one deputy, Paulo Maluf will now launch a publicity campaign to improve his image with the people. He knows that, if he is elected president of the nation, he will also face judgment by the people, and he suspects that winning the people will not be as easy as securing the support of ambitious conventioneers, because he has already been jeered on the streets of some large cities.

Although this new disciple of Goebbels has not yet offered his followers or the masses he intends to attract a new ideology, his methods are the same; that is, he makes intensive use of propaganda; conservative, very anticommunist, populist, Machiavellian, and deceptive, and he even has truculent aides.

Just like Hitler, for instance, who enticed a humiliated Germany with the promise of economic and national redemption, Paulo Salim Maluf promises what a large number of the Brazilian population wants the most: work, jobs, and better salaries. He, however, does not say what he will do to pull the country out of its economic recession, but cleverly keeps repeating that his project "Brazil Is Hope" will narrow regional disparities, will administer justice, will distribute income, and will modify the salary policy. He still promises more: To end the perquisites of public positions and corruption, -- he who has been publicly charged with committing abuses and throwing public money around.

Purporting to be a nationalist, he gives assurances that he will reduce the profits of multinational enterprises and will create a special ministry to deal with the foreign debt issue. Private enterprise will have a say in the conduct of his government, and his cabinet will have an average age of 40 to 45 (it is 60 now), because he believes that only young people have the energy to work "24 hours a day."

Words and promises, Paulo Maluf's speeches are outpourings of words and promises never to be fulfilled. He did not fulfill the largest part of his promises as governor of Sao Paulo State, and his two most important administrations, as Sao Paulo mayor and governor, bequeathed to his successors an administrative mess, monstrous debts, court cases, and irregularities.

After examining the state accounts for fiscal year 1982, Orlando Zancaner, councillor of the Sao Paulo Tribunal of Audit, affirmed: "Not even Attila and his implacable hordes were more successful in devastating the lands they conquered compared with what happened during this past administration." Zancaner said that he had "the most vivid impression that the State Treasury was disorderly and dilapidated."

In fact, since he began his public career less than 20 years ago, when he was appointed to the Sao Paulo branch of the Federal Economic Fund, thanks to Mrs Iolanda Costa e Silva [wife of late president Costa e Silva], Paulo Salim Maluf has done nothing but advance, powered by his burning ambitions.

Since that time, he has never stopped. It took him 12 years to become governor of Sao Paulo and, to tell the truth, in that trajectory he not only fawned on the authorities but he also confronted them with notable brazenness whenever the authorities did not yield to his requests and ambitions. During his tenure as mayor and governor of Sao Paulo, he became an administrator who specialized in large but not always necessary projects, splitting profits with the contractors. These charges have been made by several deputies, one of whom, Mauro Bragato of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, guarantees that 20 percent of the fantastic expenditures in foreign financings for Paulipetro [the Sao Paulo State oil drilling company Maluf created] went into a slush fund for the Social Democratic Party, and mainly to underwrite Maluf's campaign for Congress.

Maluf has spent billions of cruzeiros on flowers for the wives of those who could help him and on chartered jets to travel abroad where he was received as a true chief of state and photographed with the most diverse personalities, such as Emperor Hirohito of Japan, the pope, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Once he was elected federal deputy, Paulo Salim Maluf spurned Congress, where he never went, not even to defend himself from the constant attacks against his absenteeism, which prompted Deputy Gilson de Barros (PMDB of Mato Grosso) to call him a "bum." In 1983 alone, he earned 30 million cruzeiros as deputy, without making a speech or participating in any debate, without attending the meetings of the committee of which he was a member, and without submitting a single bill.

Maluf, who had presented himself as being "center-left," is considered a rightist and now proclaims himself to be a "centrist," raises fears, even in those who are equally conservative but more prudent, that as president of the nation he could give reasons for agitation by the extreme left throughout Brazil, driving the country into an inevitable and tragic confrontation. Others who are even more terrified are asking themselves what could Maluf's ambitions be capable of if he becomes president of the nation? Still young and certainly thirsty for more power, Paulo Salim Maluf could go crazy and try to conquer the world.

MALUF CHANCES AT ELECTORAL COLLEGE DISMISSED

PY142122 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Aug 84 p 10

[Carlos Chagas article: "Victory Seals Maluf's Defeat"]

[Excerpt] Paradoxically, the nation's presidency begins to be more distant from Paulo Maluf, the victor of yesterday's convention. His victory has permanently divided the Social Democratic Party [PDS]. By nightfall of that black Saturday, the progovernmet party had lost its majority at the January 1985 Electoral College by a small margin. From now on that margin against the PDS will grow as half the conventioneers who went down in defeat with Mario Andreazza decide to support Tancredo Neves.

The first statements are already being heard, and the decisions should follow. Ask Deputy Nelson Marchezan if he feels like backing the former Sao Paulo governor, or ask Governor Jair Soares of Rio Grande do Sul, Espiridiao Amim of Santa Catarina, Hugo Napoliao of Piaui, Agripino Maia of Rio Grande do Norte, Luis Rocha of Maranhao, Joao Durval of Bahia, Roberto Magalhanes of Pernambuco, or Gonzaga Mota of Ceara. They will side with Tancredo Neves through the Liberal Front made up of dissidents from the PDS, together with a large contingent of federal deputies, state deputies, and senators.

The victory of Paulo Maluf sealed his defeat, provided one can understand the strange byroads of Brazilian politics that in circular ways converge on the right spot. One example of this could be the way the governor of Minas Gerais might come to power through indirect elections and the Electoral College that were created by the dictatorship.

The victorious PDS candidate deceives himself if he hopes to have the support of President Figueiredo and his government. At most, the president will limit himself to giving rhetorical congratulations to the winner of the PDS convention. He will make an appeal for party unity, and will go no further. And even if he goes further, it will be of little help because President Figueiredo's backing does not count much these days. His government is worn down, and he is so unpopular that he cannot go out on the streets or make appearances before the people.

The main presidential aides do not accept Maluf. Civilian Cabinet Chief Joao Leitao de Abreu some time ago came up with a phrase that sounds like a dictum: It Maluf wins at the convention, we will defeat him at the Electoral College. Setting aside the rhetoric used by Leitao de Abreu, the opposition and the PDS dissidents can do the job alone, without the government.

ARMY ISSUES NOTE ON MILITARY CANDIDACY

PY140338 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Army Social Communication Department today released the following note to the press, clarifying an article published by a Sao Paulo newspaper on 10 August:

In an article entitled "Army High Command Rejects Military Candidacy" published in the 10 August issue of the newspaper FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, journalist Clovis Rossi tried to involve the name of Army Minister Walter Pires with the presidential succession.

According to Rossi, Minister Pires proposed the idea of a military candidacy during a secret meeting held by the Army High Command, suggesting that he himself would be the candidate, although at no time did he formalize his intention. The minister reportedly claimed that opposition candidates were surrounded by leftists. According to the journalist, at least eight generals opposed the idea of a military candidacy.

In view of this fanciful and malicious article, the Army Social Communication Department deems it its duty to say the following:

At no time did the Army minister agree to be a candidate for the presidency, despite the many requests that he received from major national political leaders. Nor did he ever have his own candidate for that post, veto names, or formulate considerations on possible opposition candidates. Therefore, it would be a serious inconsistency on his part to raise the thesis of a military candidacy at the High Command now.

The Army command has debated the presidential succession but within the specific jurisdiction of a minister who has serious responsibilities from the viewpoint of security. Political or party aspects of the issue, which are completely outside the jurisdiction of the Army, have never been discussed. There is a consensus among the High Command members, who believe that the issue must be dealt with by the political parties through their leaders.

As he promised in his inaugural address, the Army minister has been permanently interested in keeping the Army outside politics and devoted to its professional duties. This attitude, which has been frequently noted by the commentators of the main local newspapers, will remain unchanged until the end of this administration because it has proven highly appropriate for the efficiency and prestige of the Army.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR APPOINTED -- Brasilia -- Itamaraty announced on 5 August the reshuffling of the Brazilian Embassies in Colombia, Argentina, the Vatican, and France. The new ambassadors, who will take over in September, are Carlos Alberto Leite Barbosa, Joao Hermes Pereira de Araujo, Frederico Duarte Goncalves da Rocha, and Antonio Correa do Lago, respectively. [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Aug 84 p 5 PY]

GEOLOGY TECHNICIANS IN NICARAGUA — Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 10 Aug (AFP) -- It has been officially reported that Mineral Resources Prospecting Company [CPRM] technicians have advised the Nicaraguan Government to reopen the currently closed El Topacio gold mine. The Brazilian technicians who conducted the research for the Managua government asserted that the El Topacio mine could be in operating condition in a year and yield 500 kg of gold and 15 kg of silver thanks to the discovery of a new lode called the Brazilian lode. The mine is scheduled to begin operation in 1985 following the approval of the Nicaraguan Government and the signing of a credit line for $1.2 million granted by the Bank of Brazil. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1951 GMT 10 Aug 84 PY]

TRADE BALANCE STATISTICS -- According to the Foreign Trade Deparment (CACEX), during 1983 Brazil exported a total of $992 million to Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay and imported a total of $513.9 million from those countries. This resulted in a favorable balance for Brazil of $478.1 million. Also during last year, Brazil sold Argentina goods worth $654.6 million and bought goods worth $361.2 million; it sold Uruguay goods for $104 million and imported $192.7 million; and to Paraguay it sold goods for $233.4 million and imported goods for a total of $41 million. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Jul 84 p 17 PY]

TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS -- The Brazilian trade balance recorded a $1.2-billion surplus in July -- the second-largest surplus on record. A $2.5-billion record was released on 3 August by the Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brasil (CACEX). [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Aug 84 p 1 PY]

DEL VALLE, ARGENTINA'S CAPUTO DISCUSS BEAGLE

PY142025 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Report by Carmen Castro]

[Text] Argentina Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and his Chilean counterpart, Jaime del Valle, talked by telephone a few minutes ago and agreed to establish the procedures the two countries will follow for the signing of a preliminary agreement. This announcement was made to the press by Foreign Minister Del Valle himself.

[Begin Del Valle recording, in progress] ...to establish the procedures the two countries will follow for the signing of this preliminary agreement. We are also thinking about the appropriate date for this signing ceremony. [end recording]

This was part of the statement Foreign Minister Del Valle made to the press. Asked about reports from Buenos Aires that Pope John Paul II will reportedly submit his final proposal on the southern dispute to Argentina and Chile between 18 and 21 August, Del Valle said that talks are under way to discuss procedures and dates and that a trip will take place in the next few weeks. He made it clear that there is a preliminary agreement that Argentina will submit to a popular consultation.

This afternoon Del Valle will begin a new round of talks and consultations by telephone with the Chilean delegation in Rome and will probably talk again with his Argentina counterpart on this subject. What we have now, Del Valle insisted, is a preliminary agreement.

JARPA SAYS GOVERNMENT SAFEGUARDS PEOPLE

PY141855 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has stated that the government always takes the necessary measures to safeguard public order and the people's safety. The minister was answering journalists' questions regarding a series of incidents that have taken place in San Migual.

Minister Jarpa, together with Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle, today met with the president of the Republic to brief him on their visit to Ecuador, where the two ministers attended the presidential inauguration ceremony.

At the end of the meeting with President Pinochet, Minister Jarpa was asked about a series of terrorist attacks perpetrated in towns of the Greater Santiago area and especially in San Miguel. In this regard, Minister Jarpa said that he had received a full report on what is going on in that district and said that the legal advisers are analyzing this information.

When asked whether it is true that there is a subversive plan for 4 and 5 September, Minister Jarpa said that there always are plans but they always fail because the people do not support them; quite the contrary, they repudiate them. The government, he said, takes the necessary measures to safeguard order.

Regarding the meeting with the president, Jarpa said that they informed him about their mission to Quito. They talked about all the ties between Chile and Ecuador. The president listened to what they had to tell him, and Del Valle said he thought Pinochet was pleased with what they had done and with the information they had brought from Ecuador. Jarpa asserted that they did not discuss any other subjects during the meeting with the chief of state.

POLITICAL PARTIES LAW TO BE SIGNED IN SEPTEMBER

PY150207 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1657 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 14 Aug (EFE) -- Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, Navy commander in chief and a member of the government junta, has stated that the future law on political parties "will be signed during September." In brief statements to the local press, Merino indicated that the government junta, which acts as a legislative body, will approve this law within 1 or 2 weeks and it will be ready for the signature of the chief of state.

Asked about he possibility of changing some of the constitutional deadlines so that a congress can be elected before 1989, Merino stated that "this depends on President (Pinochet), because he is the person who outlines political developments." The high-ranking naval chief added that "if he (Pinochet) submits the draft laws of the changes, then we can approve them; if he does not submit them, then nothing can be done." After approving the law on political parties, the government junta will be able to approve "any law that the executive wishes," the admiral said.

REPORTAGE ON TERRORIST BOMBINGS, ATTACKS

Bombings in Santiago

PY131440 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago's security forces are conducting investigations into three new bomb attacks. This time the terrorist actions were directed against a Carabineros station a butcher shop, and a street lamp post. The first attack affected the Carabineros' La Pincoya station located on Premio Nobel Street. The explosion partially destroyed the home of a Carabinero officer and 31 windows of the station were blown out. A few minutes later a second explosive device destroyed a street lamp post at 1032 (Los Palton) Street, causing intermittent power cuts. Later, two individuals wearing ski masks hurled a third bomb onto the roof of a butcher shop at 2460 Oriente Street in the Jungai neighborhood, La Cisterna district.

In the meantime, an extremist died during a shootout with members of the security forces during an operation carried out in Valparaiso. According to police sources, the incident took place in El Progreso district in Los Placeres. The operation was aimed at clearing the area of criminals and Marxist terrorists. A shootout broke out during a raid on the home of 27-year-old taxi driver (Luis Segundo Enrique Tamayo Lascano) when he resisted the security forces. As a consequence, (Tamayo Lascano) was killed and his brother, identified as (Fernando Tamayo Lascano), was arrested. The police also arrested the taci driver's cousin, (Manuel Antonio Tamayo Tobar), and (Victor Espinoza). Another individual whose identity was not revealed was also arrested. It has also been reported that there were two dynamite attacks last night on street lamp posts in San Miguel district. The explosions knocked the street lamp posts down, causing power cuts in various areas of San Miguel, but no casualties were reported. The attacks were perpetrated almost simultaneously on the corners of San Nicolas and San Francisco Streets and on Pedro Alarcon and 21 de Marzo in the mentioned district.

Bus Burned

PY141431 Paris AFP in Spanish 1349 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, 14 Aug (AFP) -- The police have reported that a bus was burned today in Santiago by unidentified armed individuals who yelled slogans against the military regime of President Augusto Pinochet. This incident took place early this morning in a district in southern Santiago and was preceded by a bomb blast on one of the streets that run through the district.

Another bomb went off near a lamp post in the Nunoa district of Eastern Santiago.

There were two similar attacks on 13 August when urban guerrillas of the self-styled Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front attacked two trucks loaded with dairy products and distributed foodstuffs in poor neighborhoods. Also on 13 August, a group wielding automatic weapons that identified itself as from the Movement of the Revolutionary Left burned a bus near the beach resort of Vina del Mar, 130 km northwest of Santiago.

Traffic Obstructed

PY141834 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Incidents are currently taking place at the intersection of Brasil and (La Vallebon) Avenues in southern Santiago, where groups of political agitators have built burning barricades preventing traffic from moving in that area. However, Carabinero members have already arrived to control the situation.

The incidents that took place in San Miguel today are in keeping with a call by subversive groups to hold a meeting similar to the one held in Pudahuel, where Carabinero Lieutenant Julio Allende Valles was killed.

Over 100 Arrested

PY151212 Paris AFP in Spanish 0401 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Santiago, 14 Aug (AFP) -- According to several eyewitnesses, over 100 people were today arrested by the Carabineros and about 20 people living in shanties were injured during the so-called San Miguel community protest against the government of General Augusto Pinochet.

The demonstrations began with the burning of buses in the La Victoria and La Feria neighborhoods in the populated San Miguel community, south of Santiago, and then continued tonight in the La Legua, La Estrella, and 23 Enero neighborhoods in the Macul community, east of Santiago.

Hundreds of shanty-dwellers, workers, and youngsters set up barricades and burned tires on the main streets, protesting with the slogan "Bread, justice, and freedom," and demanding the end of the National Intelligence Center, CNI, (secret police of the military regime) headed by General Humberto Gordon.

Well-armed policemen with dogs, water cannons, and tear gas repressed the demonstrators. According to sources of the Catholic Church, about 20 people were injured by rubber bullets fired by the police while others were bruised by truncheons during the police actions.

TRUCE TO BE SIGNED WITH M-19, EPL 23 AUGUST

PA141351 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Bogota -- The 19 April Movement [M-19] and People's Liberation Army [EPL] will silence their weapons on 30 August, 8 days after signing the cease-fire and truce agreement, the text of which has already been given the finishing touches.

The 3-page agreement was to be signed today in two simultaneous ceremonies organized by the subversive groups but the assassination of M-19 ideologue Carlos Toledo Plata in Bucaramanga on Friday forced a postponement of the ceremonies for 8 days. Consequently, the agreement will be signed on 23 August. The members of the National Commission for Negotiation and Dialogue will be present.

The signers for the EPL will be the members of the EPL general staff headed by Commander Ernesto Rojas and official EPL spokesman Oscar William Calvo. The ceremony will be held at the Antioquia governor's office.

The M-19 has arranged to sign the agreement at Corinto municipality, Cauca, and to hold a popular event simultaneously in an area bordering Huila and Caqueta Departments. Calvo and official M-19 spokesman Andres Alvarado will meet before the end of this week to hammer out the details of the signing.

M-19 COLUMN COMMANDER COMMENTS ON YUMBO ATTACK

PA141324 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Israel Santamaria, commander of a 19 April Movement [M-19] column that carried out military actions in Toribio, in Colombia's Valle del Cauca Department, this past Sunday, said: The armed actions of the past few hours do not constitute revenge. We want peace, but it does not mean we are willing to surrender.

This past Saturday night, 200 M-19 guerrillas occupied Yumbo village in Valle del Cauca Department for 3 hours. Commander Rosenberg Pavon has said that [passage indistinct].

ATTORNEY GENERAL CRITICIZES POLICE CHANGES

PA141457 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Bogota -- Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez has objected to portions of the presidential decree reorganizing the National Police in pursuance of the amnesty law. Jimenez Gomez said that the president overrode the powers that Congress granted to him to reorganize the armed corps. Special Decree No 2137 issued last year not only allowed a revamping of the police's administration and equipment but granted jurisdiction to the attorney general to oversee the disciplining of the National Police personnel.

POLICE DISCOVER LARGE COCAINE NETWORK IN NORTH

PA141543 Botoga EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Aug 84 p 12 A

[By German Acero Espinosa]

[Excerpts] Santa Marta -- A large cocaine network and several marijuana stockpiles were discovered by the police after seizing a 20-ton shipment of marijuana in the mountains of Perija, in Cesar Department.

According to reports there are 4,000 hectares of marijuana in the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta; 6,000 in the mountains of Perija; 2,000 in the mountains of San Lucas; 1,000 in the eastern plains and 1,000 in Choco and Antioquia Departments, in the sector of Uraba along the Atrato River.

It was also learned that due to worldwide vigilance an entirely different route is being used to ship cocaine. The cocaine route starts in Brazil, goes through Bolivia, Peru and Colombia until it reaches the U.S. and FRG black markets.

There is apparently a base in Central America that receives, mostly from the United States and the FRG, all the elements used to process the alkaloid.

Narcotics Department officials reported that at least 12,000 tons of marijuana were seized during the past 12 months and 83 ships were detained and found carrying marijuana for Central and North America. According to statistics each ship carried 43 tons of marijuana.

Nicaragua is receiving the ether, the main substance used to process the coca leaves, through Costa Rica. This was fully confirmed during a police raid on the drug traffickers in Yari.

SPAIN'S GONZALEZ PRAISES BETANCUR, CONTADORA

PA131644 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Cartagena -- Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez hails the peace efforts of Colombian head of state Belisario Betancur and the Contadora Group's persuasive role that prevented a generalized conflict in Central America.

Felipe Gonzalez arrived in Cartagena accompanied by his wife and three children on vacation on a Caribbean cruise. He was welcomed at the airport of Crespo by his Colombian colleague who gave a dinner in Gonzalez' honor.

Felipe Gonzalez said that the Contadora Group's proposals and actions, in addition to having a persuasive effect, are also having an effect upon the implementation of measures to find peace in the region.

The Spanish prime minister noted his Colombian counterpart's efforts at a time when Colombia is experiencing delicate moments in the wake of the assassination of Dr Carlos Toledo Plata and the murder of at least 100 people as a result of the violent occupation of Yumbo, Valle del Cauca Department.

Felipe Gonzalez is resting in the Del Rosario Islands. He will later embark on a tour of the Amazonas and Orinoco areas as well as the valleys of the east.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Bogota -- Jacobo Gotal, Luis Laporte, and Leonel Olmos, new ambassadors from Israel, Venezuela, and Argentina, presented their credentials to President Belisario Betancur at Narino Palace today. The new ambassadors replace Haym Aharon, Pedro Contreras Zuniga, and Alberto Jose Rodriguez who have completed their diplomatic terms in Colombia. [Summary] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Aug 84 PA]

BELAUNDE RECEIVES FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

PY141511 Paris AFP in Spanish 0405 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Lima, 13 Aug (AFP) -- President Fernando Belaunde tonight received a multiparty delegation of the French National Assembly at the Government Palace. Belaunde stressed the importance of the Selva highway for transportation, development, colonization, and expansion of agriculture in border areas.

Speaking in French, the head of state elaborated on the development projects implemented by his government, particularly the massive construction of townhouses, and on various aspects of Peruvian culture, history, and politics. During the 45-minute meeting, Belaunde inquired about the birthplaces of each of the French legislators, and he surprised them with his knowledge of and comments on the main French tourist attractions and the French political situation.

The French delegation was made up of Pierre Forgues, Michel Covillet, Joseph Vidal, Ives Sautier, Etienne Pinte, Alain Kremer, and Colette Chaigneau. The French legislators were accompanied by French Ambassador to Lima Raymond Cesaire and by Peruvian deputies of the French-Peruvian friendship group.

PEASANT LEADER'S DEATH UNDER INVESTIGATION

Civil Guardsmen Being Questioned

PY141315 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0028 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Peruvian Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca today announced that seven members of the Civil Guard are being questioned about their possible involvement in the illegal arrest, torture, and death of a peasant leader in late July. After his weekly meeting with President Fernando Belaunde Terry, Percovich said that a Civil Guard committee chaired by a colonel is investigating the death of Jesus Oropesa Chonta. The peasant leader was detained on 27 July in the Andean town of Puquio, 400 km southeast of Lima, and his mutilated body was found on 10 August.

Percovich said that seven civil guardsmen, whose names and ranks he did not reveal, are undergoing "an internal Civil Guard inquest" because there are indications of "their possible involvement in the dreadful event that led to the death of Jesus Oropesa." The interior minister said that in the next few days he will present himself to Congress to give further details about the "Oropesa case."

Sergeant Charged in Case

PY141528 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Regarding the case of the killing of peasant leader Jesus Oropesa, Judge (Abdon) Luciano Alpiste has brought charges against Civil Guard Sergeant Julio Alba Frias. This information was provided by Senator Enrique Bernales:

[Begin Bernales recording] Ad hoc prosecutor Luciano Alpiste on Saturday brought charges against Sgt Julio Alba Frias for commission of qualified homicide, abuse of authority, and the commission of a criminal act while on duty. [end recording]

Regarding this crime, Justice Minister Max Arias Schreiber has said that there is no point in asking for the resignation of the interior minister, because seeking a scapegoat does not serve any purpose. The important thing is to clarify the facts related to the crime.

Leaders of the National Agricultural Confederation and the Peasants Confederation of Peru have requested an exhaustive investigation into the murder of Jesus Oropesa. In addition, the president of the Workers Confederation of Peru, Julio Cruzado Zavala, has announced that he will join other labor organizations in requesting an investigation.

Armed Forces Communique

PY141602 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Armed Forces Joint Command communique No 3 issued 13 August in Lima]

[Text] The Armed Forces Joint Command informs the public of the following:

Regarding the arrest and murder of peasant leader Jesus Oropesa Chonta, this Joint Command has coordinated with the interior minister the investigations to clarify the circumstances surrounding his death and to establish responsibility.

'TERRORISTS' KILLED, WEAPONS SEIZED IN CLASH

PY141324 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0342 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Ayacucho, 13 Aug (EFE) -- Sources close to the Armed Forces today reported in this city that at least 20 terrorists were killed in a confrontation with military units in a town south of Ayacucho Department. No details of this incident or the place where the confrontation took place have been disclosed, but according to the report, the security forces seized two machineguns and explosives.

A wounded peasant who was taken to the Ayacucho hospital has reported that the town of Carhuaran, 55 km north of this city, was set on fire by Shining Path members. The fire, which practically burned down all the houses in the town, was set last Friday.

Unofficial sources have also reported that last week terrorists killed 51 peasants in villages in Huanta, Cangallo, and Victor Fajardo Provinces.

Farmers from several towns such as Acocro and Ocros are continuing to demonstrate in support of the struggle against subversion being carried out by the political-military command of the emergency zone. In addition to this demonstration last Sunday, however, thousands of peasants from about 40 communities expressed their support for the military operations during a demonstration in Vinchos that was attended by General Adrian Huaman, chief of the political-military command.

INSTITUTIONAL ACT CALLING FOR ELECTIONS DELAYED

PY150126 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Institutional Act No 19 will not be released until 15 Aug. High government sources have told Carve that final adjustments were still being made a few hours ago to the document which calls for elections in November. The act will also set the mechanisms for implementing the various transition stages to move from a de facto regime to democracy.

UK FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ARRIVES ON VISIT

PY150235 Paris AFP in Spanish 2115 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Montevideo, 14 Aug (AFP) -- Britain's Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Ray Whitney stressed today in Montevideo that the London government is following with interest the rapprochement with Argentina, but it does not forsee a bilateral discussion on sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands.

Whitney arrived today in Uruguay for a visit that will last until 17 August. The visit comes within the framework of a Latin American tour that includes Bolivia, Paraguay, and Ecuador.

Just after he arrived, Whitney was asked about the British position regarding the Malvinas. He stressed the importance that his government gives to commitments with the islanders, but he admitted that we want to normalize relations (with Argentina).

Regrettably, a recent attempt in this respect was not fruitful in Bern, when the problem of sovereignty over the islands was brought up at the table, he added. Therefore, we continue to seek normalization and we continue to maintain our commitments with the islanders, Whitney stressed.

During his stay in Uruguay, the British official will contact important persons in the public and private sectors.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT INCREASES -- According to data furnished by the Central Bank, Uruguay's foreign debt increased by nearly $100 million over the first quarter of 1984. According to official figures, the foreign increased from $4,589,400,000 at the end of 1983 to $4,686,200,000 at the end of the first quarter of 1984, that is, a $96.8-million increase. [Excerpt] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 22 Jul 84 p 15 PY]

RECORD BEEF SALES — Reviewing the beef exports record over the January-June period in 1984, the EEC appears as the leading buyer of beef concentrates followed by Egypt, according to a report furnished by the National Meat Institute. A total of 14,188 tons worth $27,801,000 have been exported to the EEC. A total of 12,064 tons worth $17,748,000 have been exported to Egypt. Then follows the USSR with 6,958 tons worth $9,498,000. [Excerpt] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 24 Jul 84 p 9 PY]

U.S.-NICARAGUA TALKS TO RESUME ON 15 AUG

PA150159 Paris AFP in Spanish 0141 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Aug (AFP) -- The Mexican Foreign Secretariat today reported that the United States and Nicaragua will meet in Manzanillo for 2 days begininning tomorrow to continue the talks begun there in June. The Foreign Secretariat reported that as in the three previous meetings Nicaragua will be represented by Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco and the United States by Harry Shlaudeman, roving ambassador for Central America. The Foreign Secretariat said that it will give the press additional information on the meeting tomorrow.

PEMEX TO BUILD UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

FL141740 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- PEMEX Director Mario Ramon Beteta has said Mexico will continue its petroleum exporting policy and does not intend to discuss the price of petroleum. Beteta made this statement after announcing the building of underground storage tanks for holding large quantities of oil until there are better market conditions.

The equipment for this project was bought from France. The salt domes (natural deposits), which are in abundance in this region and located near the coast, and PEMEX deposits will be used in machines.

Beteta, in an extensive interview with the U.S. magazine BUSINESS WEEK, said that at present Mexico considered petroleum as cash, and that was why petroleum would not be used for bartering purposes but sold on the basis of a 30-day invoice. He acknowledged that at present PEMEX had received several offers from nations that want Mexican petroleum, and that it had rejected selling an average 400,000 barrels a day because PEMEX did not have the storage facilities.

During his recent trip to New York, Beteta had said that Mexico would continue at its present petroleum level and at the same international oil price because if these were increased it would increase the pressure on Mexico's economy.

Beteta denied that PEMEX had any contracts with U.S. refineries because Mexico has its own processing plants and the capability of not only covering its domestic demand but of exporting some products.

EL DIA VIEWS U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN 'POWDER KEG'

PA132322 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 11 Aug 84 p 13

[Unattributed commentary: "Another Turn of the Screw" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The unusual and sudden U.S. warlike display off Central America's Pacific coasts is an issue that can only be termed as interference, a prelude to an invasion, and an electoral trial balloon.

Contrary to what many feared, Washington's intervention in Central America could not be carried out immediately, massively, or in an untimely way. The intervention that today -- to everyone's misfortune -- is already a fact has been shaped step by step, advance after advance, maneuver after maneuver.

To be sure, in this process certain moments must be more dramatic than others; there must be sudden turns and momentary bets, but always, undoubtedly, there must be movements that fall within the framework of that infamous GLOBAL STRATEGY, that trite fondness by the Pentagon and its related sectors for thinking about GLOBAL ISSUES, generalities, generalizations, and things that do not exist.

This most recent warlike action is nothing but this. The idea is to offer through this action THE solution -- provided with other accessories, naturally -- to one of the most famous inventions: the "Marxist infiltration" which, beginning with Central America, would seek to deprive American citizens of their morning cereal, with the not too unselfish mediation of the transnationals.

It is also a matter of weighing the U.S. voters' reaction. As their country's presidential election nears, the voters are beginning to worry -- often for opposite reasons than does the regime -- over the Central American powder keg, which is increasingly disturbing the U.S. tranquillity.

Within this context it would not be strange if, with its most recent expedition, Washington, by dealing a significant blow to the Central American peoples, were seeking to simultaneously do away with the argument of the increasing number of KREMLIN AGENTS who within the United States would vote for Mondale, and who claim that the current administration has severely mishandled the nation's policy for Central America.

In any event, this aggressive action is another turn of the screw of interference and intervention. The weapons of these ships do not fire rubber bullets; the MARINES sent are not made of lead; the planes used in the operation were not sent to study Central America's wildlife, but to spy on the insurgent movements and perhaps combat them more "directly" than the USAF aircraft have been doing in the region thus far.

Therefore, the time has come for international public opinion to step up its vigilance and mobilize in order to curb this new EXPERIMENT, this new turn of the screw, and perhaps a new crime.

ENVOY TO UN SUBMITS LETTER ON TREATY 'VIOLATION'

PA141414 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Leonardo Kam, Panama's ambassador to the United Nations, today submitted to the UN General Secretariat a copy of a letter in which he details the Panamanian Government's objections to a U.S. decision that Panama considers a violation of the Panama Canal treaties. The letter rejects the approval by the Panama Canal Commission of salary adjustment per cost-of-living expenses and other privileges extended to U.S. canal employees hired before 30 September 1979 or recruited abroad after that date.

PRD REJECTS MEASURES FOR U.S. CANAL WORKERS

PA111749 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 11 Aug 84 p 2

[Democratic Revolutionary Party International Relations Commission communique, "We Reject the Pretension To Allow Use of the Diplomatic 'Container'" issued 10 August]

[Text] Relations between Panama and the United States on issues related to the Panama Canal are guided by the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, not by the so-called Law 96-70. This law was adopted unilaterally by the U.S. Congress, and it does not bind Panamanian authorities or officials, just as our national laws have no validity in that country.

We emphatically endorse the position adopted by President Illueca on 31 July at the event commemorating the third anniversary of Omar's death. We also endorse the position adopted by Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega in his note to the U.S. ambassador rejecting the pretension to implement new colonialistic privileges in favor of American canal employees.

In addtion to the fact that the measure the American directors want to impose discriminates against Panamanian workers, they want to charge it to the canal's budget, thus subsidizing these privileges from the pockets of all Panamanians. There is no reason for us to pay for the houses, electrical services, or trips of the American employees or their relatvies; neither should they enjoy benefits that are denied to the Panamanian people.

In line with this measure, they want to allow the thousands of U.S. employees and their families to use the U.S. Embassy's diplomatic pouch instead of paying for Panamanian postal services.

This violates both Torrijos' treaties and the Vienna Convention, which regulates access to diplomatic postal services. These privileges are a legal absurdity through which they are seeking to take us back to the colonial regime that existed prior to the treaties.

We strongly denounce this pretension, which unnecessarily creates new friction between our two countries. Once and for all, our position is to say NO [capitalization as published] to this absurd idea involving diplomatic "containers," [in English], and to demand the total revision of so-called Law 96-70 in order to bring it in line with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

International Relations Commission, PRC, 10 August 1984

MANFREDO ON SECURITY MEASURES FOR PLUTONIUM CARGO

PA142330 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 14 Aug 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Article by Eduardo Martinez Fernandez]

[Text] Fernando Manfredo, deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, has stated that the commission will adopt special security measures when the vessel that is en route to Japan carrying more than 200 tons of plutonium, a material used to make nuclear warheads, passes through the canal. Manfredo said that one of the measures to be taken by the body which administers the passageway will be to request a condition certificate from the vessel carrying the cargo. The vessel will anchor at a special place far from other vessels in canal waters. Moreover, the vessel will be given priority in order to make its passage as speedy as possible and to have this done during daylight hours for the greatest visibility. The vessel will be navigated by the commission's most experienced pilots and traffic will be cleared; that is, there will be no other vessels in the area while the plutonium is being transported.

In an interview on Panamanian radio, Manfredo said that navigation permits cannot be denied to any vessel wanting to cross the interoceanic passageway. Manfredo said that the exact date of the vessel's arrival in Panamanian waters is still unknown, but its arrival must be announced at least 24 hours in advance. Manfredo said that Panama Canal Commission rules state that vessels carrying cargo described as "dangerous" must meet several requirements at the port of departure and that an inspection certificate issued by a reputable agency specializing in the handling of nuclear materials must accompany the vessels.

To conclude, the deputy administrator said that should other considerations not included in the regulations arise, experts in nuclear matters must make the appropriate recommendations. Then, in the event of serious risks, Panama will ask for restrictions on the vessel's passage.

PST ON PLUTONIUM SHIPMENT, SCHOOL OF AMERICAS

PA131646 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Aug 84 p 11 A

[From "The People Speak" column by Ramon Fernandez Domenech]

[Text] The Socialist Workers Party [PST] has raised its voice "against the passage of a ship loaded with nuclear cargo" that is slated to transit the canal shortly. It also demands the dismantling of "all the military junk in the School of the Americas." According to a PST communique, the "decision regarding the passage of a ship loaded with nuclear cargo was made by the imperialist commands. The government's position, adopted through its national representatives in the Canal Commission, is irresponsible," as the PST feels that "that body does not have the authority to deny passage through the interoceanic waterway to this deadly ship." The PST also wants the facilities of the School of the Americas "to become the patrimony of the University of Panama so programs and projects for the expansion of the university can be developed."

CONTADORA TECHNICAL GROUP POSTPONES MEETING

PA141512 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2332 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The meeting of the four deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group (Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela) that was scheduled for 14-15 August has been suspended and will be held at a later date, it was reported here today. A Panamanian Foreign Ministry source told ACAN-EFE this afternoon that the meeting was probably postponed because the deputy foreign ministers of the peacemaking group known as the "Technical Group" do not have all the information they were supposed to review here. The Panamanian, Colombian, Mexican, and Venezuelan foreign ministers were expected to put together the points of the preliminary draft of the peace agreement for Central America. The document, which is called the "Contadora Document," contains drafts of agreements among the five Central American nations on security, political, economic, and social matters. The same source told ACAN-EFE that a new meeting of the "Technical Group" will be called as soon as the Contadora deputy foreign ministers have all documentation in hand, which may be in the next few days. A meeting of the Contadora foreign ministers is scheduled for late August in Panama City.

COSTA RICA

FURTHER REPORT ON GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

Ministry of Public Security

PA141442 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1416 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge today takes over responsibility for the Ministry of Public Security, and postponed until next Thursday at 1900 (0100 GMT) the announcement of his cabinet's reorganization; therefore, he will not address the nation today, as previously announced. Meanwhile, the ministries continue working normally.

Ambassadors Asked To Resign

PA150001 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] A telex signed by Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez was sent to all Costa Rican ambassadors in the different countries of the world today requesting their resignation. This request is part of President Monge Alvarez' restructuring of his cabinet, which began last weekend with the resignations of ministers, deputy ministers, advisers, and executive presidents of autonomous institutions. Reports have also been issued stating that the president has suspended all activities scheduled for this week and is currently away from San Jose working on the restructuring of his new cabinet.

Monge Explains Changes

PA150320 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0132 GMT 15 Aug 84

[President Luis Alberto Monge "address to the nation"; broadcast in progress -- live or recorded]

[Text] ...in order to have a few more hours, until Thursday, to make some of the most important decisions I have ever made with regard to the reorganization of the government's highest political and administrative positions.

Distinguished citizens whom I wish to appoint to the government team have been unable to reply to my request in such a short period. At the same time that I will announce the most important decisions that I have made, I will address a message to my fellow countrymen.

I want to state that we are not experiencing a political crisis. Instead, we are experiencing a simple reorganization of the government's highest political and administrative positions. I know that we are not accustomed to this in this country, but it is a frequent practice in other democracies. The reorganization does not in any way alter the calm development of our social, economic, and political life.

Business and labor leaders have formulated proposals, complaints, and criticism. When these are expressed with patriotic responsibility, we consider them healthy and advisable. We analyze them with respect and serenity. We do not object to modifying decisions and making rectifications when necessary. [Words indistinct] have suffered demagogic and excessive attacks. The political opposition to the government constantly attacks us, sometimes with unnecessary virulence. It frequently personalizes its attacks against me or another official. This is customary as we are getting closer to an electoral campaign.

Criticism of the government and attacks on some close aides have come from the National Liberation Party. Nevertheless, I want to make it clear to the country that I am not making any decision as a result of incorrect pressures, regardless of the source. [Words indistinct] resignation of my top aides. I think I must express thanks on behalf of Costa Rica for the gesture of loyalty, humility, and unselfishness that the presentation of their resignations signify. No one will leave or change his position because I have yielded to pressures. No one will leave or change his position because the president has accepted the ideological or moral questioning of some aides. If I had accepted this questioning as valid, I would not have asked for their resignations; instead, I would have dismissed them. [Words indistinct] of reality. I face realities that I cannot ignore without the risk of weakening and even invalidating the government's actions in the 20 months that remain in my constitutional term.

For some of my aides political circumstances have prevented them from making their desired contributions to the government and the country, at least in the positions they currently hold. I am convinced that they can serve the country well in this and other administrations, but for now their possibilities have been exhausted.

Thank you very much. God willing, I will be with you again on Thursday.

LIBERTAD VIEWS COMMERCE CHAMBERS' DEMANDS

PA150053 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 3-9 Aug p 2

[Editorial: "The Chambers Want To Govern"]

[Text] With the aid of other business organizations the Chambers of Commerce finally submitted their list of demands to the president of the Republic. More than a list of demands, it is a government platform. The Chambers of Commerce want to govern and they have given the president 30 days to enlist as the chief of the businessmen's ranks or face the threats made by these capitalist gentlemen to adopt "the measures they deem appropriate."

Under the heading "national security" the chambers are demanding that the government break off diplomatic relations with Nicaragua and remove from their positions those government officials who support the neutrality policy and oppose open repression against Costa Rica's popular movements. The government is told to act against the unions, approve antidemocratic laws, and accept U.S. military aid without discussion. In economics, the chambers advocate subjecting the country to the dictates of the IMF, eliminating the nationalized banking system, and a general economic policy that will allow capitalists to increase their profits by letting the people go hungry and surrendering the country's sovereignty. The chambers also tell the president and the Legislative Assembly "the style in which they should govern" and end with a 30-day ultimatum that becomes effective when their document is submitted to the president.

Therefore, if the government does not act on their demands, the chambers will have the "moral authority" to launch a destabilization campaign against the government which could even lead to an attempt to topple President Monge. The two outstanding demands in the document are the breaking off of relations with Nicaragua and the application of a hard-line policy toward the workers. This plan was not really conceived by the chambers, but is an old one envisioned by the U.S. Embassy and the CIA which has taken on additional strength since Ambassador Curtin Winsor arrived in San Jose. The Reagan administration, in the context of its war strategy in Central America, needs full control over Costa Rica and needs our territory as a springboard for its military aggression against the Sandinist revolution. This war policy has found resistance in some government sectors, beginning with President Monge himself, and is the reason for the breadth and violence of the destabilization campaign launched by extreme right capitalists and the CIA: Either they defeat the resistors inside government circles or they try to get rid of them by using some of the many instruments within their reach.

The chambers are not alone. Imperialism, the worst enemy of the people and of Costa Rica's sovereignty and independence, is behind them. for this reason, the capitalist threat must be taken quite seriously. They don't want a simple change in the handling of government affairs. They want to destroy democracy and impose a fascist-style regime on us. They don't just want the president to modify his "style of governing," they want a Pinochet.

The president of the Republic, in defending the country's democratic institutions and Costa Ricans' peace, must give the chambers a clear and firm answer following in the best of our traditions. The people must remain alert and willing to confront the chambers' destabilizing affront in a responsible, courageous, and unified manner. Many Latin American countries have gone to bed at night in a democracy and awakened in a dictatorship. We are confident that in our country we will know how to firmly and intelligently fight to defend ourselves from those wolves still trying to hide under sheepskins.

RURAL GUARD BREAKS UP TERRORIST CELL IN HEREDIA

PA142235 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Last Saturday the Rural Guard discovered and broke up a terrorist group in San Joaquin de Flores. According to initial reports, the group was headed by a U.S. citizen named Davis. A Rural Guard patrol, led by Colonel Carlos Camacho, deputy director of that police corps, raided a house in that canton in Heredia Province. Colonel Camacho said the group is apparently made up of 8 to 10 persons, some of whom were arrested. They include the U.S. citizen named Davis, a woman surnamed Mora, and two other men, Murillo and Gonzalez. The last three are Costa Ricans.

Colonel Camacho added the guards found boots, olive-green clothes, camouflage garments, radio antennas, fuses, and other implements used in guerrilla warfare in the house. Thus far, it has been revealed that the prisoners, possible members of a terrorist group, received training in Huapiles and San Carlos. The captives have been turned over to the legal authorities. Finally, Camacho said there was not much to report as the investigation process is in its initial phase.

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE ADDRESSES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PA141924 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 14 Aug 84

[President Jose Napoleon Duarte speech to Legislative Assembly in San Salvador -- live]

[Excerpts] President of the honorable Legislative Assembly, members of the board of directors of the honorable Legislative Assembly, honorable deputies, ladies and gentlemen: I believe it is an important occasion in the democratic life of our country for the president of the Republic to appear before the Legislative Assembly to submit a report of the actions that correspond to our country's foreign relations.

On this occasion, I have two issues to report. The first is a report on the trip I have just taken to the European nations and the United States. The other has to do with the ratification of my request to continue the campaign abroad. Within the context of these two points, I wish to take this opportunity to present the official position of El Salvador vis-a-vis that of Nicaragua regarding the current Central American problems.

In the first place, I asked the Legislative Assembly for permission to leave the country in order to accept with an official invitation from the FRG Government to visit that country. Despite the fact that the trip was basically to Germany, we received invitations from all the European nations. In the case of Spain and Italy, they asked me to try to make the trip in September. So we went ahead with the visit to Germany and will wait for September to go to Spain and Italy. In Europe, we stopped in France, Portugal, England, and later, in the United States. While in Europe, we visited the EEC and the European Parliament.

These visits were intended mainly to obtain support in our big, difficult international campaign, in which I believe we are portraying the image of Salvadoran democracy. Our other objective was to create an atmosphere of support for our country. In this respect I will say that in all those countries where the communists have gained power, they have never won military victories, but always have isolated the nations and later stormed into power. We seek the support of all nations to fulfill our national objectives, and we shall continue to do this everywhere we go.

Within the framework of my trip to Europe, I received an urgent call from the United States inviting me to visit that country, in two different (?places): New York and Washington. President Reagan and congressional leaders were to receive me in Washington. The United Nations, its secretary general, and UNICEF officials were to receive me in New York. The private secretaries of a very important organization in the United States that is comprised of U.S. entrepreneurs invited me to speak and they formalized an earlier invitation they had made to give me a medal as they usually do when chiefs of state make this type of presentation. So, I thought it was important to make that trip. For this reason, I went to New York and then to Washington.

This trip received front page coverage in all European newspapers. This, of course, spread to the United States and became world news. At that time, the possibility for economic aid to El Salvador, the Central America issue, and Contadora topics were being discussed in the United States.

Therefore, the trip to Washington, and the meeting with President Reagan were to discuss these matters. My visit was also aimed at discussing aid with leaders of the majorities of the various political forces in Congress.

All Salvadorans know about statements by Senator Long, various members of the U.S. Congress, and certain European leaders. The result of this was confirmed by the supplemental aid that the U.S. Government, through its Congress, recently approved in support for El Salvador. It is economic and military aid. Both are supplementary to already appropriated aid. Both are aimed at helping and protecting El Salvador in the democratic process we are undergoing. I think no one can deny that the effort of the trip was worthwhile.

Gentlemen, at a given moment I made a decision in Europe in the wake of a statement made by Commander Ortega in Nicaragua. He said that they had helped, were continuing to help, and would continue to help the terrorist sectors of the Salvadoran subversion. Because this remark was made by a chief of state it compels El Salvador to take a stand. Nicaragua has filed a suit at The Hague court based on its own interpretation of the U.S. intervention and in the argument they presented in their verbal allegation of the public session held on 25 April 1984 [2-second break in transmission] (?CR)-8 page 64, procedure they say that all this intervention cannot be based on the Salvadoran legitimate defense because El Salvador has never complained or has never outlined its public, legal, and international policy with regard to the complaints it may have about a Nicaraguan intervention in Salvadoran affairs. This is [word indistinct]. This is completely false. We Salvadorans are all witnesses to the fact that since the era of the government junta we have been making public statements -- President Magana did so, and you, yourselves at the assembly, have made comments in this regard.

Therefore, making a claim in a litigation about jurisdiction based, precisely, on a fallacy is unacceptable. For this reason, in my capacity as the leader of my country's foreign relations, I have come to the Legislative Assembly because I believe it is the right forum to tell the Nicaraguan Government that we have respected them and that, similarly, we demand respect. We want to tell the world that El Salvador feels offended by the intervention that Nicaragua has been carrying out these past years supporting subversion, terrorism, and destruction in our country.

So, this is the document I am holding in my hand that is our declaration before The Hague. We are not resorting to this court as a part in the litigation. We are not yet using the right we have to file suit at the proper time. We are making a statement now to dot the i's and to define our position in this matter. Since the document has 20 pages, I will not read all of it here. However, I delivered to you, Mr President of the Legislative Assembly, an official copy of this document in Spanish that is being delivered at this time by our ambassador -- accredited to The Hague and whose representation on behalf of our country has been accepted -- to the international court. He was tasked with presenting this document in accordance with The Hague regulations and statutes, in order to present and clearly explain our position.

I have the honor to refer to, the declaration states, to the 9 April 1984 suit filed by the Republic of Nicaragua against the United States of America. The Nicaraguan Government, in a malicious and unfounded way, has asserted to the court that El Salvador does not feel it is under an armed attack by Nicaragua. Given at the court's public session on 25 April 1984, (CR) - 8, page 64. Due to these false assertions, the Republic of El Salvador, hereby intervenes by right based in Article 63 of the court's statutes and Articles 82 of the court's regulation on the judicial documents concerning the Nicaraguan suit of 9 April 1984.

El Salvador intervenes exclusively to argue that this honorable court has no jurisdiction and because of multiple reasons, it should declare itself incompetent to rule on the Nicaraguan suit because of the arguments contained in it. Therefore, this suit and its arguments are inadmissible.

El Salvador also wants to participate to state that, contrary to what Nicaragua said in its allegations in this trial, it considers itself under the pressure of an effective armed attack on the part of Nicaragua and feels that its territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence are threatened, just as the rest of the Central American countries feel threatened. This is proved by the protests that the affected Central American countries have made against the Nicaraguan Government.

In view of the political use that Nicaragua has tried to make in regard to the Salvadoran position, El Salvador has come here to affirm before the International Court of Justice and the world, that it is a victim of an aggression carried out by the subversion directed by Nicaragua thus endangering the stability of the entire region.

Then comes the recounting in which I make reference to all of the facts that show the setup that we Salvadorans regard as aggressive, explaining that Nicaragua has become a base from which the terrorists are seeking to overthrow our nation's elected democratic government and that they are instructed, armed, equipped, and trained by Nicaragua to destroy our economy, to sow social destabilization, and to keep our people terrorized and under armed attack by subversives who are directed by and headquartered in Nicaragua.

I state that our nation cannot and must not remain indifferent to this manifest aggression and to the violent destabilization of El Salvador's society, which forces the state and the government to legitimately defend themselves. For this reason, we have sought and continue seeking assistance from the United States and other democratic nations in the world as we need this assistance to defend ourselves from this (?external) aggression that is backing the subversive terrorism in El Salvador as well as to relieve and repair the economic damage we have suffered in this conflict.

Actually, we are the victims of aggression and armed attacks from subversives who are organized, guided, and supported out of Nicaragua. We have been such victims since 1979 and even before the Sandinists assumed power in Nicaragua because by that time there were already Nicaraguans and Cubans involved with the subversive groups in El Salvador. They also counted on these subversive groups to wage the subversive war in Nicaragua itself and to seize and consolidate the Sandinists' power.

We talk then about all of the existing evidence on the intervention, on the support by Nicaragua, on the intercepted weapons, the clandestine shipments, the statements by some officials with various explanations demonstrating Nicaragua's intervention in El Salvador's affairs, and, of course, the statement or confessions by the fundamental Nicaraguan officials, which we regard as the most trustworthy proof that this is a confessed attitude.

To do so, we cite the statement by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto at Contadora, which was explained by [former Foreign Minister Fidel] Chavez Mena at the proper time. Also, the statement by [former Grenadian Prime Minister] Bishop, who said that we can already talk not only about revolutionary Cuba and not only about revolutionary Nicaragua but about revolutionary El Salvador and revolutionary Guatemala and Honduras. Fidel Castro also said that the Sandinist revolution will teach us a great deal and we are sure it will exert and extraordinary influence as an example to the rest of Latin America.

Rafael Cordova, who (?is also a member) of the Sandinist junta, said that if the Salvadoran left wing wins in El Salvador -- and we cannot but hope for the victory of the Salvadoran companeros -- Guatemala will immediately fall like a ripe fruit and Nicaragua and the Sandinist revolutionary process will be firmly established [se asentara].

And so we go on outlining the various positions until we reach the point at which Daniel Ortega made the statements in Europe, which serve as the basis for this complaint and which, coming from a head of state, are the most absolute demonstration of the intervention because he said that he could meet with President Duarte but that this would not preclude continued support for the Salvadoran guerrillas. This was said by a head of state. They did not even give an explanation or apologize for this.

The basic argument is that, in our opinion, there are two levels of jurisdiction to settle international conflicts. One of them is eminently political and the other one is legal or juridical. In this case, Nicaragua has assumed the second [word indistinct]. Nicaragua alleges the jurisdiction of Article 36 of the court's statute in paragraph three of its introductory plea.

Thus, it uses as a basis the conventions that have been signed by the various countries. Thus, Nicaragua has made its [word indistinct]. We argue that El Salvador has also signed all of these documents and statutes and that, therefore, it has the right not to be ignored in regard to a matter that will definitely affect it. We claim that the complaint cannot be admitted by the court without first determining the legitimacy, the legality of any armed action in which Nicaragua is involved to the detriment of the sovereignty of other nations and especially El Salvador.

We also claim that it would not be just to admit the Nicaraguan complaint without having first determined what rights El Salvador has to undertake action in legitimate defense because Nicaragua's demands against the United States are directly linked to El Salvador's demands against Nicaragua and because we Salvadorans have the right to legitimate self-defense and have the right to ask for assistance from anyone who can provide it to defend ourselves and to defend democracy.

We then state that the complaint is inadmissible [improcedente] because it is based on a fallacy, such as the claim that El Salvador is not being affected by the exportation of subversion.

In addition, El Salvador has set forth reservations about accepting jurisdiction of the court and has said on record that it has lodged a reservation on acceptance of the jurisdiction of the court in the specific case of disputes connected with situations of hostility, armed conflicts, individual or collective actions taken for the purpose of legitimate defense, resistance to aggression, compliance with obligations imposed by international organizations, and other such actions, measures, and situations to which El Salvador is, has been, or may be a party.

Regarding the other aspect, the political aspect, we state that current world situations lead one to conclude that besides the disputes among nations there have emerged multinational conflicts, that the traditional juridical mechanisms are not enough to solve them; and that new instruments are being sought to engage in multilateral political dialogue taking into account the political, military, economic, and international factors besides the juridical factor. This is the case of the conflicts in Asia Minor. This is more sharply the case of the disputes among the various nations in the Middle East, and this is more specifically the case of the Central American conflict.

In this regard, El Salvador states that it feels that the entire world has recognized that the Central American phenomenon has slipped out of the simple sphere of bilateral treatment and has become a regional phenomenon involving participation by multilateral interests. In this case, it has been corroborated that the pertinent institutions, like the Security Council, the UN General Assembly, and the 13th Meeting of the OAS Foreign Ministers, have had to open the way to the new instrument: that of good offices. It is within this concept that four countries in the American region -- Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama -- put forth an initiative and its corresponding instruments to confront this crisis. As everybody knows, this is called the Contadora process.

The five American countries, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, have accepted this political initiative to settle the conflicts in the Central American crisis which, by the way; involves other countries like Cuba, the USSR, and the United States itself. It must be recalled that all parties to this group [as heard] have accepted the 21 points and all basic documents drafted by Contadora which contemplate a solution (?through) a political consensus of each and every one of the complaints lodged by Nicaragua with the international Court.

That is why the presentation of the complaint at the court is illogical. In addition, [words indistinct] the demands of the rest of the Central American nations against Nicaragua that are embodied in these 21 points. This argument would be enough to consider the court's [word indistinct] inadequate because it would fundmentally undermine all of the negotiations that are currently being carried out within the Contadora process. This process has been specifically endorsed by the UN Security Council and by the OAS. Up to this moment it has received public support from virtually all nations in the world, to such a degree that at this moment preparations are underway to hold a meeting of the four Contadora countries during the month of September. President Monge and myself have made efforts in Europe in order for these countries, for the foreign ministers of the 10 countries, to come to Costa Rica to support the Contadora process. The five Central American countries and the foreign ministers representing the EEC, Spain, Portugal, and the four Contadora countries will meet within the overall concept of the setup that has been established by the Contadora Group.

El Salvador feels that the court would err and act as an inadequate medium if it hears on the Nicaraguan complaint because it means transferring the forum of understanding and tolerance, which is the political forum, to the forum of legal confrontation, which has other mechanisms and other methods of solution.

It would also imply setting a precedent according to which all other nations involved in the Central American conflict would have to resort to this coercive instance represented by the court. This would lead to a multiparty litigation involving implications that transcend even the strictly legal framework.

Invoking Article (?67) of the court's statute and Article 82 of the court's bylaws, El Salvador officially states in this document its valid position regarding Nicaragua's interventionist attitude and regarding the lack of jurisdiction of the court as well as the inadmissibility of this action. Of course, El Salvador reserves other rights according to the court's statute and bylaws so as to make known its points of view and to defend its interests, including the right to submit arguments in this case, for instance.

I have decided to present this document to the Assembly because I feel that it is a momentous document. The same way that I have reported to you on my trip to Europe and the United States and informed you about the importance of this overall program of international struggle, I think that it is my duty to ask the Assembly for the flexibility required by me to exercise this function in [words indistinct] of the world in face of this prolonged war in which we are regretfully involved.

That is why I have asked the Assembly for a two-pronged permission on this occasion. The first one will allow me to keep in contact with the Central American presidents and to travel through Central America as required to tackle the Central American problems. The second one involves a reiteration. The second one involves the fact that I have invitations from several South American countries. Specifically, I have already received invitations to visit from Venezuela and other countries. I have an official invitation to visit Argentina.

Therefore, I ask the Assembly to consider this reiteration of my request for permission to travel to South America. The Salvadoran people who are listening to me through this network know perfectly well that even before assuming the presidency I made a trip to the United States, with my own funds, to help the Salvadoran Government, our country, and the Armed Forces. Thanks to God, we obtained support consisting of $58 million at that time.

I can state with regard to the trip to Europe that, costwise, I did not spend a single cent over what was [word indistinct] on transportation because a plane was made available to me to enable me to travel through Europe with the speed with which we were carrying out the tour.

I am now asking you for permission to leave the country again. I think that it is important to [word indistinct] that these tours are not for pleasure, or to be absent, but for work; that I am going to visit the people that have to be visited in order to obtain [words indistinct] for the country, and that at this moment we require a consolidation of the Contadora process and a consolidation of the democratic countries. We must [word indistinct] the Contadora member countries. We must [word indistinct] the democratic countries of Latin America to strengthen democracy in Latin America to help our country to become consolidated by having a democratic Central America around it. We must avoid being isolated. This was attempted before.

I think that all Salvadorans realize, and are not entertaining illusions, that this struggle involves an international confrontation and that subversion is resorting to every trick. So, we must take part in the decisionmaking.

This is my duty. When you drafted the Constitution you established in Article 168 the responsibilities of the president of the Republic and you established in it the responsibility of [words indistinct]. I have to work for the people.

I must do what has to be done and to be able to accomplish this, I must be where things can be accomplished. The people know this and for this reason I have come here to ratify this.

I have additional information. I have other invitations from the United States. I will make them public at a suitable time. We cannot ignore the constant efforts we have to make to keep the world informed, to keep El Salvador as a focus of attention but not because of the bad things that may be seen but because of the great effort we are making to achieve democracy.

Mr President of the National Legislative Assembly, members of the Board of Directors of the honorable Legislative Assembly, deputies, Salvadoran people listening to me: I think I have properly presented my report to the Assembly and that I have ratified our policy of reporting to the nation.

I came to the National Legislative Assembly with the respect that the branches of the state deserve in order to present my points of view so that we may continue struggling for democracy with respect and understanding, so that we may continue strengthening democracy with a spirit of tolerance and understanding because this way we will be safeguarding and strengthening the democratic process and building our fatherland.

I am sure that by you doing your part in the Assembly and we ours at the executive branch, we will be giving our fatherland a better future. Thank you. [applause]

ARMY, FMLN CLASH ON COASTAL HIGHWAY, IN USULUTAN

PA150120 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Aug 84 pp 2, 62

[Text] Guerrillas who positioned themselves on the Coastal Highway yesterday morning to strip passing drivers of their jewelry and to take their money partially burned an empty tank truck that was traveling on that road from San Miguel to San Salvador near the El Espino turnoff, 120 km southeast of the capital. Residents advised the Concepcion Batres Treasury Police of the attack. When they arrived at the site, a fierce clash erupted sending the rebels into retreat. The tank truck was traveling from San Miguel to San Salvador, where it was to be loaded with fuel, when FMLN-FDR rebels at the El Espino turnoff stopped it. Official reports released yesterday indicate that the prompt arrival of the Treasury Police prevented the vehicle from being entirely destroyed. The police repelled the rebels, who fled in disarray, the official report states. Troops from the Training Center for Armed Forces Engineers ambushed FMLN-FDR rebels in Jalponga Canton in Santiago Nonualco Municipality. One rebel was killed in that operation and arms, munitions, TNT sticks, and 5.56-mm cartridges were seized. In addition, the report says that Atonal Battalion troops clashed with extremists on (San Jaime) farm in Tecapan Municiaplity, Usulutan Department, on Sunday. Two soldiers were killed and 18 sustained slight injuries. Rebel casualties are not known.

FMLN DECRIES REAGAN'S MOCK ATTACK ANNOUNCEMENT

PA140451 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Warmongering U.S. President Ronald Reagan staged an incident over the weekend which has provoked the indignation of governments throughout the world and placed world peace in a precarious situation.

The incident took place last Saturday in Santa Barbara, California, where Reagan is vacationing at his private ranch. Reagan was preparing to give his usual radio message, a message which is broadcast live by several stations, to all Americans. Believing that the microphones were turned off, Reagan approached them and jokingly said: Fellow citizens, I am honored to announce that I have just signed a decree which will outlaw the Russians forever. The nuclear attack will start in 5 minutes.

Unfortunately for the warmongering U.S. President, two radio stations had turned on their microphones so Reagan's message was broadcast live and recorded by the two stations. U.S. Government officials steadfastly refused to comment or issue any statement regarding what Ronald Reagan said. Even though Reagan's words announcing the atomic attack to completely annihilate the Soviet Union -- a nation with 200 million citizens -- were said in jest, it reveals the real U.S. intentions and warmongering plans in its foreign policy.

The matter has become more complicated for Reagan and his administration because the United States -- that is, the Reagan administration -- is trying to create a good impression at the national and international level for electoral purposes by stating its willingness to negotiate with the Soviet Union regarding the delimitation of nuclear weapons. Reagan's statement, something which no other U.S. President had ever said in the past, has provoked the indignation of governments throughout the world, particularly European governments, because of the grave consequences this statement might have for world peace. The U.S. press has emphasized that Reagan's statement was a joke; nevertheless, the phrase reveals the U.S. Government's real intentions, mainly those of Ronald Reagan, the irresponsible U.S. President who has placed world peace in a precarious situation.

FMLN RENAMES SALVADORAN ARMY BATTALIONS

PA150258 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Whereas, the dictatorship's Armed Forces depend more on the U.S. Government each day to defend its interests;

Whereas the dictatorship's Armed Forces has sold the nation's sovereignty to the United States for a little over $1 billion, which it has received in the past 4 years, in military aid;

Whereas, the dictatorship's Army is trained by U.S. advisers; that the arms it uses and the tactics it implements are also from the United States;

Whereas, eight U.S. colonels are giving the orders to the puppet Armed Forces;

Whereas, U.S. Navy, Army and Air Force units, such as its reconnaissance planes, the U.S. Army 224 Intelligence Battalion currently stationed in Honduras and the battleship Iowa and other U.S. war vessels, are supporting the dictatorship's Army;

Whereas, the person who claims to be the chief commander of the pro-U.S. puppet Armed Forces was placed in that position by the U.S. Government and he speaks in the language of the Yankees when he holds a news conference;

Whereas, Atlacatl, Atonal, General Ramon Belloso, General Manuel Jose Arce and the Lencas are part of our historical background and of our ancestors, who fought against foreign intervention and to defend the country;

We declare that henceforth the misnamed Atlacatl Battalion will be the Paul Gorman Battalion; the Ramon Belloso Battalion, the George Shultz Battalion; the Atonal Battalion, the Henry Kissinger Battalion; the Manuel Jose Arce Battalion, the John Dimitri Negroponte Battalion; the Bracamonte Battalion, the Thomas Pickering Battalion; the Cuscatlan Battalion, the Jeane Kirkpatrick Battalion; the Ponce Battalion, the George Bush Battalion; the Lenca Battalion, the Yankee Battalion; the Morazan Battalion, the Caspar Weinberger Battalion; the Cacahuatique Battalion, the William Casey Battalion; and the Ronald Reagan Battalion, which received this name from Colonel Adalberto Cruz and has not won a single battle against the FMLN, will keep its name, the Ronald Reagan Battalion.

GUATEMALA

ANDRADE ON AID ANNOUNCED BY NEW U.S. ENVOY

PA142233 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Yesterday, new U.S. Ambassador Alberto Martinez Piedra informed Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran that the U.S. Congress has approved additional economic assistance to Guatemala totaling $20 million. This was the U.S. diplomat's first activity after visiting the Guatemalan foreign minister's office during the morning to present his credentials, which he will also present to head of state Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores.

In his talks with the Guatemalan Foreign Minister, Ambassador Martinez Piedra said that in effect last Friday the U.S. Congress approved a law whereby Washington is authorized to give an additional $20 million to our country. Foreign Minister Andrade Diaz-Duran was deeply satisfied with the U.S. diplomat's announcement which, in official criteria, means a marked improvement in the two countries bilaterial relations, which has deteriorated in the past few years by constant reports of violations of the Guatemalan people's basic rights.

Foreign Minister Andrade told the press that the $20 million approved by both chambers of the U.S. Congress will be channeled, in the near future, to the development programs that have been initiated by the government in 1984. Andrade said that the Guatemalan Government was very satisfied with the announcement by Ambassador Martinez Piedra, adding that it is evidence of a change in attitude toward this Central American country by President Ronald Reagan. Foreign Minister Andrade also said that he thinks the receipt of this additional $20 million will begin during the next few months and with it the Mejia Victores regime will strengthen the economic reactivation process. To conclude, Foreign Minister Andrade told the press on behalf of the government that he is grateful for this gesture of goodwill on the part of the people and federal administration of the United States, which consolidates the ties of brotherhood that have been firmly established between the two countries for the past (?100) years.

ANDRADE AWAITS ANC DECISION ON BELIZE ISSUE

PA150429 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 14 Aug 84 p 8

[Text] The foreign ministry will not carry out any activity regarding the final resolution of the Belizean problem until the decision of the National Constituent Assembly (ANC) is known, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran said yesterday.

The official said that it is the task of the ANC to study all matters related to the old controversy regarding the territory in question and the claims that the Guatemalan Government has maintained for several years.

The Foreign Ministry will provide information on the case to the deputies if required so they will have sufficient elements to judge this 100-year-old problem. The foreign minister added that the Guatemalan Government has maintained the position of "not recognizing the unilateral independence that Great Britain granted Belize," while it has been reiterated to the public that our country will reserve the rights that is has over the disputed territory.

However, an informal dialogue has continued, with representatives from Great Britain and Belize in search of a solution that will take into account the rights and interests of those involved. Andrade said the Foreign Ministry executes the foreign policy that the head of state decides on in this case, and for this reason "it has been very careful not to reach any definite solution without knowing the opinion of the ANC."

Foreign Minister Andrade Diaz-Duran added that some statements regarding this matter have been misinterpreted and have logically resulted in a political situation. Despite this, he continued, we reiterate that the Foreign Ministry has great respect for the ANC and will await its decision before deciding on a final solution to the age-old problem.

HONDURAS

CONGRESS PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON ALVAREZ' CHARGES

PA142222 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Except] The president of the National Congress, Efrain Bu Giron, has referred to charges from former Armed Forces Commander General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez that the signature that appears on the resignation letter presented to Congress is not his, that it is a forgery, by saying: Deputies are neither handwriting experts nor investigators to determine whether it was a forgery. When the resignation letter was presented, we took for granted that it was his signature.

ARMY HIGH COMMAND BEGINS NEW RECRUITING PLAN

PA141943 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Army High Command is interested in erasing the negative image it earned as a result of cruel recruiting practices that have been characterized as manhunts. Armed Forces Commander General Wlater Lopez yesterday announced new and more civilized recruiting methods. The people are expected to respond civically to this new attitude of the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces High Command yesterday told Honduran news media directors that the Armed Forces now have a new attitude toward the recruiting of troops.

Gen Lopez, who was accompanied by Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, Guillermo Tuman, and Efrain Lisandro Gonzalez, told the media that the Honduran Armed Forces trust they can motivate a new civic behavior among the citizens and that they will voluntarily serve in the military without the Army having to resort to the unpleasant and inhuman procedures that have been used in the past and that have been characterized as man-hunts.

The Armed Forces asked for publicity support form newspapers and radio and television stations and for the advise of Carlos Calderon, an experienced publicist who backs this campaign of a civic and patriotic essence.

Gen Lopez said that his institution seeks a rapprochement with the people and that this will be influenced by the way that the Armed Forces enlist their new member. The media plans to start a civic awareness campaign soon to inform the people about the positive aspects of military service noting that young men will be able to acquire education in the military so that once their service is over they can return to civilian life most adequately. The media directors, especially the director of Radio America, believe that his new Army attitude on recruiting is a result of the High Command's desire to promote a more positive Army image among the people.

NICARAGUA

SOBERANIA, BARRICADA ON U.S. INVASION PLANS

SOBERANIA on Cost

PA142251 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Ideologists at the service of U.S. intelligence agencies are drafting a plan on how the military invasion of Nicaragua will be carried out with an estimated cost of over $10 billion and with casualties ranging from 12,000 to 24,000. This charge appears in an Ibar Broyo article to be published in the prestigious magazine SOBERANIA, which will soon be in circulation locally and internationally. The article adds that the sinister plan is being drafted under the title "The Cost of Invading Nicaragua" by Theodore Moran, director of Georgetown University's International Diplomacy and Business Program. War analysts are studying the invasion and occupation of Nicaragua based on an estimated 5-year period to be carried out in different stages. The feature writer stresses that the invasion plan foresees that U.S. casualties will be higher now, as compared to the casualties during the war of aggression against Vietnam. The cold projections and estimates made by the warmongers who are planning to send U.S. youths to the slaughter-house are highlighted in the article of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America, TANA, published by SOBERANIA magazine.

BARRICADA Views Strategy

PA150232 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 Aug 84 p 3

[Editorial: "The Invasion Is Being Prepared"]

[Text] As was announced in February, elections will be held in Nicaragua on 4 November. For 6 long months, Nicaragua has fought to exercise it legitimate, sovereign rights and to ratify its plans for social change. Various obstacles and arguments were raised by internal reactionaries, but they have all been overcome and defeated. The last of these, the attempt to sabotage the elections, led to the self-imposed sidelining of the traditional politicians and the business group that directs them. At the same time, important international political forces and many countries have expressed their confidence regarding Nicaragua's electoral process. Paradoxically, this civic confrontation that the right wing shunned is being used by Nicaragua's enemies as an excuse for aggression.

According to U.S. sources, these preparations for aggression include "logistics for 61,000 men, 216 planes, 743 helicopters, tanks, and other equipment at a cost of $10.646 billion."

What are the Reagan administration's "arguments"? The alleged illegitimacy of the electoral process. What is its proof? That the Nicaraguan right wing is not participating. Since the argument is not only false but because it is also known that those who sidelined themselves from the process do not have any political influence, the United States is reinforcing its false arguments. With the excuse of the alleged traffic of arms to El Salvador, it has brought five ships with 2,000 soldiers to the Pacific and deployed the 224th Military Air Intelligence Battalion, which uses OV-2 Mohawk planes, in Honduras.

In coordination, the CIA is trying to create Grenada-style conditions, planning aggressions against our leaders for the purpose of simulating an internal power struggle that will justify a "rescue" action by its troops, as was done by the 82d Airborne Division that massacred the Grenadian people. In view of this evidence that can be easily proven despite the support of the press that has sold out, it is clear that the strategy for the invasion of Nicaragua drawn up by Reagan and the destruction of Nicaragua's process of change continues in force and that the various pawns that he uses have faithfully followed their roles in the script they were given. The defense of the revolution has not stopped. In the same way, the defense of the electoral process will continue. We will continue to face the representatives of the strategy of invasion nationally and internationally. It is easy to find them because they identify themselves by their actions. The international community and the Nicaraguan people will make them account for those actions.

ROBELO DISCUSSES ARDE SPLIT, STRATEGY

PM150743 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 3 Aug 84 p 9

["Part one" of Democratic Revolutionary Alliance leader Alfonso Robelo interview by Joaquim Ibartz; date, place not given]

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica -- "The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] has been left with very little military strength, barely 500 out of an estimated 8,000 men, because almost all the fighters have stayed on Pastora's side. But the serious thing is that armed clashes could occur at any moment. We do not want to cause frictions, which would be disastrous; we want to avoid violence with people who were our allies 2 months ago. That would be terrible. Commander Pastora heaped insults on us, but we declined to respond because our efforts are directed not against him but against Managua." This was said by Alfonso Robelo, the top leader of ARDE, the alliance of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries that a month ago expelled Eden Pastora for his refusal to join the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN].

Robelo -- one of the five members of the first government of national reconstruction, which he left 22 April 1980 to adopt increasingly critical stances with respect to the Sandinists -- has just signed in Panama a so-called "National Reconciliation Agreement" with the leadership of the FDN, the principal counterrevolutionary group. By the terms of this agreement ARDE and the FDN will jointly combat the Sandinists. Pastora, an ARDE member since the alliance's foundations, rejected the merger -- Robelo calls it euphemistically a "coordination" -- believing that the FDN is an organization controlled by former Somozist guard. We pointed out to Robelo that Pastora considers the FDN a greater enemy than the Sandinists themselves.

"As regards the troops this is not so. Commander Pastora himself has acknowledged this several times. The social background of the FDN fighters is the same as that of the fighters in the south. The large majority of them are peasants.

Some 90 percent are peasants and small farmers disgusted with the Managua regime, who see the FDN, by virtue of the geographical situation, as the logical vehicle through which to channel all their energies, with the aim of overthrowing the Sandinists.

[Ibartz] Heavy charges have been leveled at you. Pastora's supporters say that you have kept ARDE money and weapons, while the fighters are hungry and lack supplies.

[Robelo] The ARDE military area under Commander Chamorro does indeed keep a stock of stores and supplies. And we have some economic resources. Why? Because I handled the financial side and we also controlled the armaments, since we also handled the supplies. I could accuse Commander Pastora of having kidnapped 8,000 men and not having allowed them freely to choose where they wanted to go. [end Robelo remarks].

Robelo added that to avoid bitter disputes with Pastora he put two specific proposals to him.

[Robelo] I told Pastora's men: "We will supply the troops' needs in August and September -- with our vehicles, our organization, and our methods." Pastora's reply was: "No. It must come via me." So I made him the second offer. This was my list: "We will supply you with 70 percent of the material but we must sign a final discharge document. This is like a divorce. A division of assets. Let us not be allies, but neither let us be enemies. Let us make a settlement. There are a certain number of aircraft: two-thirds are for you and one third for us." We gave him 8 aircraft and kept 4 for ourselves. The same applied to weapons and ammunition. We would also like an area within which to operate. I repeatedly said to them: "Let us be friends, let our work be parallel." The commander's reply was categorical: "No, no, no. All or nothing."

[Ibartz] How do you interpret this stance of Pastora's, which you describe as radical?

[Robelo] Eden is a man with a very strong personality -- a very impulsive person. He is very skilled in using demagoguery among other things. His reply was: "No. There is no bargaining with the people's blood. The fighters are in the depths and in the heart of Nicaragua and are dying of starvation. It is a crime. You are criminals. You must hand over everything to us." That was the kind of thing he told us. But we thought: So you do not want this. Very well, then, ARDE will keep everything. That greatly complicated matters. [end Robelo remarks]

Robelo stressed that hitherto he has maintained a prudent silence on the subject of Commander Pastora's "verbal attacks."

[Robelo] My attention was drawn, and I was pleased, by the fact that his remarks on his arrival at Barajas Airport in Madrid seemed more moderate. I do not know whether that was due to the long journey. He sounded calmer, more tranquil to me. Felipe (Gonzalez, Spanish prime minister) received him at Spanish Socialist Workers Party headquarters, which greatly pleased me, because it implies that the Spanish prime minister is adopting a stance.

[Ibartz] Is ARDE without Pastora a paper alliance?

[Robelo] We have been left with very little military strength, barely 500 men that we have contacted. But we are confident that this number will soon increase.

[Ibartz] Commander Bayardo Arce told us a few days ago that if FDN leader Alfonso Calero were to return to Managua he would be shot, but if Pastora were to return he would be jailed. What would happen to you?

[Robelo] I would probably meet the same fate as Pastora -- imprisonment. I understand the distinction that the Sandinists draw, and that is clever on their part. We must be very pragmatic in our analysis. Eden Pastora coincides completely with the Sandinists in his attacks on the FDN. They are exactly the same. "Somozists, perpetrators of genocide, traitors," I don't know what. All that kind of thing. I take a poor view of this because it echoes Managua and diverts attention from who his enemy is. You have to know how to control Pastora. This is why I am sorry about Eden's leaving. With his dynamism and charisma, ARDE should have carried the banner of the convergence of all Nicaraguans, because we could rally and organize them all.

[Ibartz] Why did ARDE fail to become the principal group of armed insugents against the Sandinists?

[Robelo] First, we were let down by the geographical situation. Working in Honduras in complete freedom in a mountainous area full of people is not the same as working from Costa Rica in a depopulated and forested region. But we could have organized that alliance and easily headed it and settled matters. Why did we not do so? We lacked the flexibility necessary in politics to understand the difficulties that occur.

[Ibartz] Why did ARDF fail to gain space along the northern border, if it is easier to operate from there?

[Robelo] Honduras presented opposition -- especially General Alvarez, the former Armed Forces chief. A tremendous aversion developed between Alvarez and Pastra. It was really frightening. Again we lacked the ability to understand that one needs allies and that one must know how to treat those allies. Eden is often too impulsive. It is a natural consequence of the life he has led. He has 23 years of struggle behind him and must often have suffered subhuman conditions, up in the mountains with just a handful of men, eating monkeys. From that we went on to magnificent surroundings and a phoney existence. He is still the most outstanding man among us who opposes the Marxist Managua regime.

ARDE FAVORS TRUCE IN EFFORT TO AID ELECTIONS

PA150111 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] San Jose -- The anti-Sandinist Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, yesterday announced its willingness to fully suspend its military operations if the leftist government of Managua does the same in order to hold free elections in Nicaragua.

MEDIA CRITICIZE REAGAN'S 'FAUX PAS' ON USSR

PA141940 Paris AFP in Spanish 1809 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Havana, 14 Aug (AFP) -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan revealed his true face when he joked last Saturday about the imminent bombing of the USSR, the Cuban press reported today.

"President Reagan said what he thinks and it is difficult to believe that the incident can be excused as another example of the faux pas that have characterized his stay in the White House," the Cuban press agency PRENSA LATINA stated in a commentary published today by the newspaper TRABAJADORES, organ of the labor unions.

"It is obvious that among the group that surrounds Ronald Reagan in holding power in the United States the idea of the first nuclear attack against the Soviet Union has prevailed and continues to be the systematic policy," PRENSA LATINA stated. "At the end of almost 4 years of Republican administration, facts demonstrate an imminent threat to peace and nobody doubts that Reagan's reelection could mean war," PRENSA LATINA added.

In another commentary, the Cuban agency discussed the topic, ironically stating that Reagan's affirmations were due to too much horseback riding. "To ride on horseback is a physical exercise that doctors recommend only in exceptional cases, because the strong pace of the horse can damage brain cells."

COSTA RICA LINKED TO U.S. PLANS FOR NICARAGUA

PA150359 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 13 Aug 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] During the strike that has been carried out for more than 1 month by almost 3,000 Costa Rican banana workers, one of the basic aspects of the situation in Central America has become evident: U.S. intervention in the region. The economy of the Central American countries has historically been controlled by U.S. firms. The so-called banana republics, among which is Costa Rica, have suffered imperialist exploitation and domination through consortiums such as the United Fruit Company, founded at the end of the 19th century.

The Costa Rican workers, who now work on the banana plantations of a subsidiary of the U.S. transnational United Brands, are grouped into the Golfito Workers Union and are demanding a 60-percent wage increase as well as other benefits.

For Costa Rica, the serious economic situation the country is facing constitutes a source of countless conflicts. Costa Rica is faced with increasing inflation that it has not been able to control, its foreign debt is a weight for the entire nation, and the people suffer constant increases in the costs of basic items.

Legality has been one of the bastions that the Costa Rican Government has boasted about. However, this is not the first time that this legality has been violently trampled when it is a matter of defending businesses and juicy profits. Almost 1,000 policemen and Rural Guards were sent to the banana plantations to repress the Costa Rican strikers, which resulted in one death and many wounded. At this time, authorities are negotiating the signing of an agreement with the IMF that will make the country's difficult situation and the people's living conditions even worse.

It has also been reported that many U.S. technicians are arriving in Costa Rica with the intention of working on the so-called plan for the development of the northern part of the country, which constitutes another of Washington's maneuvers against Nicaragua. This project is financed by the United States and Israel, and, according to statements published in THE WASHINGTON POST, the so-called plan to develop the northern part of Costa Rica is, along with the military reinforcement of Honduras, a strategic effort to attack Nicaragua and isolate it by land.

Despite the reiterated statement by President Luis Alberto Monge that Costa Rica is a neutral country, that nation has in fact become another base for aggressions against Nicaragua, a place where mercenary bands that enter Nicaraguan territory to commit crimes and sabotage have their hideouts. The United States defends the interests of its transnational firms operating in Central America. Such firms operate in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica, where they sack the natural resources of these countries and exploit the salaried workers. The strike at the Costa Rican banana plantations is another page in the Central American peoples' struggle against U.S. imperialism.

D. ORTEGA REPORTS CIA ASSASSINATION PLOT

FL131916 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] In a WASHINGTON POST-published interview, Daniel Ortega, Coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has reported that the CIA has a plan to assassinate two or more junta members before Nicaragua's 4 November presidential elections. He added that the plans had been discovered by the Sandinist intelligence services.

The CIA's sinister plan would feign the assassination of one or more members of Nicaragua's Government as the work of other junta members. Reagan would then try to portray the situation as an internal power struggle, an excuse that would be used to conduct a military intervention such as in Grenada.

Ortega also described Reagan's campaign of slander against Nicaragua, the allocation of new funds for the contras who are hurting the nation, and the sending of U.S. warships to Central America's coasts. Several ships are already near the Gulf of Fonseca with some 2,000 Yankee soldiers aboard.

NICARAGUAN PAPER VIEWS U.S. NAVY AS 'THREAT'

FL141914 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan newspaper EL NUEVO DIARIO has warned that the presence of a U.S. naval flotilla in Central America is a threat to the peoples of the region.

The paper said the flotilla, led by the USS Iowa, was conducting provocation maneuvers off Nicaragua's coasts. It added that this constitutes a danger to the Pacific side of Nicaragua's territorial waters. Also mentioned was the simultaneous patrolling by the John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier in the Caribbean basin. Washington has increased its military presence in the region, and high U.S. military personnel are visiting the area.

U.S. Army Chief of Staff John Wickham is at present in Honduras. For a time, Wickham commanded U.S. troops occupying South Vietnam before being defeated. Wichkam plans to inspect the Palmerola Base in Honduras, from where incursions are made into Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, reports from Managua state that fighting against the bandits continues in Jinotega Province. Some 40 Somozists from a task force which invaded Nicaragua from Honduras died in the last few hours.

NICARAGUA'S WHEELOCK DENOUNCES U.S. ATTACKS

PA141945 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Nicaragua has denounced the brutal U.S. attacks. Jaime Wheelock, the Nicaraguan minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, made that charge at the 18th Regional FAO Conference that is taking place in Buenos Aires.

Wheelock pointed out that Nicaragua is a genuine representative of progress in our Latin America, because it assumes a dignified and sovereign stand.

The Nicaraguan leader denounced attacks on that small country of approximately 3 million inhabitants. He said that there are attempts to block lines of credit needed for its economic and social development. He said that Nicaragua is suffering from the mining of its harbors and is being surrounded by powerful naval forces.

He pointed out: Despite the attack that has resulted in a significant loss of human lives and property damages, over the past 5 years Nicaragua has reduced illiteracy from 60 percent to 12 percent, erradicated endemic diseases, and reduced the infant mortality rate.

REAGAN REPORTED ASKING MORE 'CONTRA' FUNDS

FL141404 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] An important U.S. Government official has said President Ronald Reagan will continue pressuring to obtain funds for Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in spite of opposition in Congress.

In statements made to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the anonymous official said the White House could not maintain a viable policy without the funds. He added that constant pressure by the contras was essential in avoiding defeat in El Salvador.

Meanwhile, it was reported in Managua that over the last few months some 600 peasants had been kidnapped by mercenary forces who operate in Madriz and Nueva Segovia Provinces on the border with Honduras. The farm workers were kidnapped after the contras attacked towns along the border with Honduras.

INCREASED U.S. AID FOR EL SALVADOR NOTED

FL142048 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1817 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] With the pretext of the growing FMLN guerrilla offensive in El Salvador, the Salvadoran Government will receive increased military aid from the United States. Officials of President Ronald Reagan's administration predicted today that the increase in aid to the Salvadoran Government would soon be made effective.

The delivery of an additional 10 helicopters to the Salvadoran Air Force will double the number of helicopters, which are vital to the deployment of antiguerrilla units, according to the opinion expressed by U.S. officials.

The Reagan government is trying to justify the additional aid to El Salvador by predicting another guerrilla offensive against the government next month.

The U.S. Congress recently approved $60 million in aid for the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte, using as an argument for this decision the statements on El Salvador made by General Paul Gorman, chief of the U.S. Southern Command. Gorman, who met with Duarte when the latter visited Washington and requested more aid, said the guerrillas will start another offensive and it is necessary to help the government.

Congress voted hurriedly because Gorman said that if military supplies were not urgently provided to the Salvadoran Government, it would be overthrown by the guerrilla offensive.

It has been reported from El Salvador that more than 200 women belonging to the (?Arnulfo Romero) Committee, made up of the mothers of prisoners who have been murdered or have disappeared, organized a protest meeting before the U.S. Embassy.

OSCAR ORAMAS APPOINTED NEW UN AMBASSADOR

FL131146 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1105 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Council of State has appointed Comrade Oscar Oramas Oliva as Cuba's new ambassador and permanent representative to the UN. At the time of his appointment Comrade Oramas held the position of vice minister of foreign relations.

APPOINTMENT OF RADIO MARTI PRESIDENT REPORTED

FL141140 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1102 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The U.S. Senate approval of the appointment of Jorge Mas Conosa as president of the anti-Cuban Radio Marti broadcasting station will make it possible for President Ronald Reagan to continue his aggressive campaign against Cuba, that country's observers have commented. Mas Canosa is believed to be one of the main leaders of the counter-revolutionary organization Alpha-66.

HUNGARY'S ISTVAN SARLOS RECEIVES HUMBERTO PEREZ

FL150101 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Istvan Sarlos, member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, today received Humberto Perez, alternate member of the Politburo of Cuba's Communist Party. The two vice presidents of the Councils of Ministers of their respective countries discussed matters of mutual interest such as long-range cooperation and economic plans for the period 1986-1990.

MPSP CONGRATULATES CONGOLESE LABOR PARTY

FL141924 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] The Cuban Movement for the Peace and the Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has made public in Havana the text of a congratulatory message it sent to the leadership of the Congolese Labor Party and its president Denis Sassou-Nguesso on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the heroic 3 glorious days. The struggle of the Congolese people for the consolidation of its achievements, its solidarity with the National Liberation Movement, and its anti-imperialist unity constitute the best homage to the memorable event of the 3 glorious days.

Severo Aguirre del Cristo, Central Committee member and MPSP president, signed the document that is a sample of our solidarity and support.

NICARAGUANS, AFRICANS TO TRAIN ON ISLE OF YOUTH

FL141302 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Four specialty polytechnical schools that will provide training in agriculture, livestock, economics, and ceramics will open in September on the Isle of Youth.

Some 1,800 students plan to enroll in the school. Students from Africa and Nicaragua who have finished the 9th grade and who have applied in their own country for enrollment will be admitted.

In this way the special municipality will be contributing to training technicians from Cuba and brother countries in specialty fields of great importance.

Three secondary schools in the Isle of Youth countryside are being remodeled and brought into operating condition, and will be used as the buildings for the polytechnical schools.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS CASUALTIES, BOMBINGS

PA132158 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Radio Venceremos has report that FMLN forces inflicted six casualties on troops of the Salvadoran regime in clashes in Chalatenango Department.

The rebel station also reported that the Salvadoran regime's Air Force is bombing the population and civil objectives in the rural areas of Morazan and Chalatenango departments.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE RESHUFFLES CABINET

PA132258 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Ranking Costa Rican officials have reported that President Luis Alberto Monge will reveal the names of his new cabinet members on Tuesday, while business leaders are demanding that at least two important ministers who advocate dialogue and detente resign their portfolios. One of these is Presidency Minister Angel Edmundo Solano [as heard], whose statements in defense of Costa Rica's neutrality policy upset business organizations, and Public Security Minister Fernando Berrocal Soto [as heard], who the leaders of the private sector signalled as "persona non grata" after they promoted a peace march against war in Central America last April.

The Costa Rican daily LA REPUBLICA reported today that president Monge has assumed total control over the executive branch, adding that the ministers' resignations should occur at any moment.

A source who is close to the Monge administration said that the president wants to get rid of officials who have been a problem to him in any way, and immediately added that he will dismiss the minister and deputy minister of government, Alfonso Carro and Enrique Chacon respectively, both of whom favor supporting the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries.

HONDURAN BUSINESSMEN WORRIED ABOUT STAGNATION

FL141836 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The Honduran Association of Private Businessmen has asked the government for changes in the law because, in their opinion, present policies are not stimulating private investment.

A delegation from the Association, which is the principal business group in Honduras, sent a letter describing the situation to Supreme Court President Carlos Manuel Arita. The letter also said the association was worried about judges and lawyers not respecting the laws.

REACTIONS TO URUGUAYAN POLITICAL AGREEMENT NOTED

PA120455 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] There is a critical political situation in Uruguay because of the negotiations between representatives of the military regime and opposition groups on possible November elections.

Representatives of the traditional parties and organizations that comprise the Broad Front participated in the meeting, with the exception of the Communist Party, the participation of which was not allowed by the regime.

The Broad Front staged a demonstration in Montevideo on Friday in which thousands of its activists participated and in which its leader Liber Seregni stressed his support for the negotiations.

Meanwhile, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, president of the majority National Party who has been in prison since his return to the country on 26 June, strongly condemned the talks, refusing to participate. In a letter he sent from prison, Ferreira Aldunate states that the agreements reached in these negotiations between the military regime and opposition organizations are a dreadful solution that compromise the country's democratic future. Ferreira Aldunate rejects the agreements by which the Armed Forces commanders are granted extensive powers, and warns that, for the first time in history, amendments to the Uruguayan Constitution have been made without a prior referendum.

SOLAR ENERGY INSTITUTE NEARING COMPLETION

FL141159 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1102 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The first phase of the Solar Energy Institute, under construction southeast of the city of Santiago de Cuba, is practically completed. This is the only center of its type in the country. In about 1 week, an important section -- one building which will use solar energy and grounds for testing equipment -- will be completed.

Most of the research work on the use of unconventional energy will begin in September and construction of other projects, such as the prototype shop, will begin by the end of the year. Enterprise No 22 construction workers are responsible for this project.

PLAN FOR INCREASED SUGAR PRODUCTION OUTLINED

FL131415 Bridgetown CANA in English 1036 GMT 12 Aug 84

[By Colin McSeveny]

[Text] Havana, Aug 12, CANA-REUTER -- A world glut has sent sugar prices to 13-year lows, but Cuba plans to raise its output by nearly half over the next six years after an accord with the Soviet Union and its allies.

Mills are laying off workers and closing down in virtually every cane-producing country in the world, said Armando Reyes, a Cuban delegate to the communist bloc trading group Comecon. But Cuba, because of its ties with Moscow, can buck the trend.

He said the world's biggest exporter of raw sugar hoped to harvest 12 million tonnes by 1990 compared with this year's near-record 8.2 million as part of an overall economic cooperation programme worked out recently with Comecon.

Foreign trade analysts and some unofficial Cuban sources describe the 1990 target as over-optimistic, however.

They pointed out that Cuba had a history of failing to meet long-term harvest projections and that a plan to produce 10 million tons by next year had been quietly forgotten.

It is highly unlikely that such a big jump in production can be made in such a short time, particularly when you take unpredictable factors like weather into account, said one western diplomat here who specializes in commodities.

But Cuban officials told REUTERS that more efficient cultivation techniques, greater mechanization of cane-cutting and a rise in the planting area should provide the desired increase in output. They said the construction of two new mills to help cope with extra grinding was well under way.

Speaking about how Cuba had been cushioned from the worst effects of the world sugar glut, President Fidel Castro told a national day rally last month that Cuba's entry into Comecon 12 years ago had been vital to the country's well-being. These links have been fundamental for our socioeconomic development and are decisive for our future development, he said.

A sugar glut which began in the early 1980's as the European community became a sugar exporter instead of an importer has forced world prices down to four cents a pound, less that half Cuban production costs.

The Soviet Union buys more than half Cuba's sugar and pays the equivalent of some 30 cents a pound, albeit mostly in non-convertible currency which may be used only to buy Comecon goods.

The world price slump, which slashed Cuba's hard currency sugar earnings to 340 million dollars last year from 650 million in 1982, has obliged Castro's government to turn increasingly to its communist allies for economic aid.

Less than a decade ago sugar prices were eight times higher than now and Cuba could afford the luxury of buying about half its imports from the West. By last year the figure had dropped to about 12 per cent.

The Soviet Union, whose giant economy dominates Comecon, ensures that Cuba's supply of hard currency is enough to meet such vital needs as medicines and spare parts from the West and the repayment of its 3.5-billion-dollar hard currency debt.

A disappointing sugar harvest of 7.2 million tons last year left Cuba struggling to meet its free-market contracts, but Moscow came to the rescue by accepting a one-million-ton cut in its Cuban sugar imports, official figures show.

The Soviet Union also allows Cuba to sell on the world market any Russian-supplied oil saved from domestic consumption. These oil re-exports were Cuba's single biggest dollar earned last year, bringing in almost twice as much hard currency as sugar.

HAITI

JOURNALISTS BARRED FROM VISITING POLITICIAN

FL141216 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Haitian police have prevented a 3-member investigative team from the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists from visiting an anti-Duvalier politician who is under house arrest. The investigative team went to the home of (Gregor Eugene), but policemen standing in the door barred their entry. Mr. (Eugene) is a university professor who heads a group called the Haitian Social Democratic Party. He returned from 4 years of exile in the U.S. last March, and has been under house arrest since July 4th for criticizing Haitian President Jean-claude Duvalier. It is against the law to criticize the president of Haiti.

ST LUCIA

NEW VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR ON CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

FL131352 Bridgetown CANA in English 1701 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Aug 11, CANA — Venezuela's new envoy to St Lucia said his country placed a "definite priority" in its foreign policy to relations with the Caribbean. This would continue to be the case in spite of Venezuela's unhappy financial position, Ambassador Gonzalo Sanchez said yesterday when he presented his credentials to Governor General Sir Allen Lewis.

Sanchez, the second ambassador to St Lucia since diplomatic relations were established in 1979, said his country wished to increase its economic and commercial relations with the island. "Taking into consideration the current international situation and the identity of the goals of St Lucia and Venezuela as developing countries, it is necessary to make a joint effort in bilateral and multilateral areas in order to face the present economic crisis that could become a threat to democracy because of social tension arising from that situation."

Sanchez said Venezuela was "reviewing and trying to adapt the mechanism of financial cooperation" to the new circumstances. Whatever the decisions, he added, they would continue to be of benefit to the recipient countries.

The ambassador, 47, said his country was following closely all matters relating to the establishment of a new democracy in Grenada where elections to restore the country to parliamentary rule are to be held later this year.

In the economic field, Venezuela hoped to see a "strengthened Caribbean Community" (Caricom). Venezuela, he said, hoped in due time to have the opportunity to exchange ideas "bearing in mind that the Caribbean Development Bank should give more attention in its financial policy to the vital needs of the less developed countries of the Caribbean."

He said that Venezuela wanted to increase its economic and commercial relations with St Lucia and was awaiting relevant decisions about different projects under consideration for the island, specifically housing.

Sanchez said Venezuela's presence in the English speaking Caribbean was guided by "the star of sincerity, humbleness, and respect, seeking the achievement of a common destiny in the region, based on the strength of the institutions, atmosphere of freedom, and the respect of the dignity of the human being."

ECUADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER ON THREATS TO NATIONAL SECURITY

PA141530 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] In his first press conference, Division General Luis Pineiros, new national defense minister said: There are threats against and antagonism toward our national security and that is why our Armed Forces must be prepared. Thus its efficiency must be improved. We do not advocate an arms race, but we will ensure our capability to avert any attack. He added that the Armed Forces will continue to support current laws and will not change the policy it has maintained over the past 5 years of democratic government.

BANK HEAD, MINISTER ON NEW ECONOMIC STRATEGY

PA141533 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] The first step of the new economic strategy will consist of the promotion of production and productivity, mainly that of the agrarian sector, Central Bank General Manager Carlos Julio Emanuel said yesterday following his installation in that post by the Monetary Board president. He said that this policy also includes the industrial sector through a new policy aimed at rationalizing it by using domestic resources, generating more jobs, and increasing productivity.

Francisco Swett, finance and public credit minister, said: An option available to the current administration is to cut the mini-devaluations process, but in order to do that, it is important to replace it with a new exchange policy. The minister added that he does not want to get ahead of resolutions that the Monetary Board will adopt in due time. He said, however, that the new policy will be properly established this week and he also warned that he is not trying to implement a common devaluation.

GUYANA

WRSM CONVENTION ON 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST NICARAGUA

FL141641 Bridgetown CANA in English 2310 GMT 13 Aug 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 13, CANA -- The fifth biennial Convention of the Women's Revolutionary Socialist Movement [WRSM] -- an arm of the ruling party here -- ended last night with a resolution "condemning all acts of aggression against Nicaragua" and supporting the efforts of the Contadora peace group, comprising Venezuela, Mexico, Panama and Colombia.

The 800 delegates from Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, China, Cuba, Nicaragua, the United States and the Soviet Union also gave unanimous approval to another resolution "calling for an immediate withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia, and for complete and general international disarmament."

In her closing address last night, WRSM Chairman Viola Burnham, wife of Guyana President Forbes Burnham, warned that "the survival of Guyanese and the recovery of the country's economy depend on the creativity, determination and resourcefulness of all the people of Guyana."

She said the WRSM "supports the idea of women going into the interior and working alongside their men to help develop the resources there."

BRIEFS

DPRK EXPERTS IN ESSEQUIBO -- Georgetown, 11 Aug (AFP) -- A total of 23 North Korean experts have arrived in Guyana in the past 5 weeks. Several of them will work in Essequibo, a territory currently disputed by Venezuela. Five of the North Korean experts will work on designing a hospital in Georgetown. The other experts will work on a million dollar drainage and irrigation project east of Georgetown, and also on a hydroelectric project in Eclipse Falls in northwestern Essenquibo. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Aug 84 PA]

PARAGUAY

MARTINEZ DECORATES SOUTH AFRICAN, BRAZILIAN

PY141257 Asuncion Red Privada de Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Senior foreign officers who are visiting our country to attend the 15 August celebrations were decorated today. This morning, Defense Minister General Gaspar German Martinez decorated South African General Constand Viljoen with the Order of Military Merit. This afternoon, Gen Martinez met with Brazilian Navy Minister Alfredo Karam and later decorated the Brazilian officer with the Order of Military Merit in the grade of Grand Officer.

VENEZUELA

MORALES PAUL ON GUYANESE PROJECTS IN ESSEQUIBO

FL142252 Bridgetown CANA in English 2132 GMT 14 Aug 84

[Text] Caracas, Aug 14, CANA-REUTER -- Guyanese mining investments in the disputed region of Essequibo will complicate efforts to find a solution to Venezuela's claim on the territory, Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul said today. In recent months, Guyana has negotiated agreements with a number of countries including Yugoslavia, North Korea, Canada, and China for new projects in Essequibo. Venezuela claims that the 53,000 square mile territory, comprising more than half of Guyana, was improperly awarded to Britain by international arbitration in 1899.

"Our position is that to so act in the disputed zone modifies the status quo between the two countries, and therefore does not affect [as received] Venezuela", Morales Paul told newsmen. He said Venezuela would continue to act in line with the Geneva agreement of 1966, which establishes a procedure for peaceful negotiation under auspices of the United Nations.

U.N. Under Secretary General Diego Cordovez will visit the two countries within the next two months as part of efforts to find an acceptable negotiating procedure, Morales Paul said.

Asked whether Guyana's planned exploitation of gold, oil, hydroelectric, and agricultural resources would make agreement difficult, Morales Paul said Venezuela was maintaining a close watch on Essequibo.

"If it is a case of permanent investments, this is one more factor that will affect a final solution, although I don't think it is insuperable," he said.